

**William Rees-Mogg**  
The royal marriage and public consequences of a private life, page 18

**20p theatre seat**  
A top show for the price of *The Times*. Details, token p44

**Softer yet seductive**  
How a two-ply triumph is bringing "feel-good" fashion to the high street, p17

**20P**

# THE TIMES

No. 65,161 WEDNESDAY JANUARY 11 1995

## Stop living in the past, says Blair

Clause Four supporters 'not learning from history, but merely living in it'

**By PHILIP WEBSTER**  
POLITICAL EDITOR

TONY BLAIR last night accused his left-wing critics of living in the past in their attempts to block the rewriting of Clause Four of the Labour constitution.

His party, he said, would not retain the people's trust unless it showed willingness to embrace change. Furious that Labour's new year offensive had been blunted by a newspaper advertisement purporting to show that more than 30 of its Euro-MPs opposed modernisation of Clause Four, Mr Blair went to Brussels and told his opponents that they were "not

learning from our history, but merely living in it".

The review of the constitution was not a debating exercise but an essential part of Labour's crusade for change. He revised a speech planned for a fund-raising dinner to defend his attempt to tear up the Holy Grail of Labour's socialist past and replace it with a modern version of aims and values.

The party's constitution must reflect its actual beliefs, he said, and that did not include wholesale nationalisation of industry. In an

angry aside at the organisers of the advertisement, he said that while he welcomed expressions of opinion "not everyone will have the privilege, let alone the means, to publicise their views through paid-for advertisements on the front page of national newspapers".

Earlier John Prescott, his deputy, criticised those responsible for the advertisement. "Yes it has caused damage, I don't think there's any doubt about that. But we welcome the debate," he said. "It was politically motivated to cause the maximum embarrassment to the leader's visit to Brussels."

In his speech, Mr Blair promised that Labour would be a reforming, pro-European government and gave the strongest indication so far of his support for a single currency.

But the European content was overshadowed by the dispute over Clause Four, as several of the MEPs alleged to have backed the advertisement in *The Guardian* issued statements disowning it. Others claimed they had not known their views would be appearing publicly. Three of them, Alan Donnelly, David Rowe and Hugh McMahon, dissociated themselves from the advertisement and said it had been timed to embarrass Mr Blair. Mr Blair will tell Labour's 62 MEPs in Brussels this morning that he has no intention of dropping his plans.

Later he will return to London to warn the Shadow Cabinet that it must show greater discipline in the public handling of key policy issues. The recent dispute over Labour's education policy and the

through a radical programme in government. He said that the new constitution would state what Labour believed: that some services should remain in public ownership. "Equally, it is not, and has not been for decades, the policy of this party to argue for the wholesale nationalisation of industry. We need, as well as strong public services, a dynamic modern market economy."

He did not launch the debate. Continued on page 2, col 4

Blair speech, and Peter Riddell, page 9  
Simon Jenkins, page 18  
Leading article, page 19

## Parker Bowles divorce 'does not mean royal split'

By ALAN HAMILTON AND EMMA WILKINS

AN announcement yesterday that Brigadier Andrew Parker Bowles and his wife, Camilla, who has had a longstanding affair with the Prince of Wales, are to divorce increased speculation that the Prince's own marriage could end in divorce shortly.

Churchmen and legal experts emphasised that the decision of a mistress of the heir to the throne and her husband to end more than 21 years of marriage carried no immediate constitutional implications.

However, since Mrs Parker Bowles, 48, will be free to remarry when the decree nisi is granted later this month and the Prince and Princess of Wales have lived apart for two years and a month, a royal divorce is now more likely.

Royal officials said yesterday that the Parker Bowles divorce would not affect the Prince's decision on how finally to end his marriage. St James's Palace said there were no plans for the Prince and Princess of Wales to divorce, as had been made clear in a joint statement by their solicitors last October.

"There have been no discussions between the two parties about any divorce. They have not decided that is what they want to do," the Prince's office said.

It was also pointed out that at no time during the affair which, the Prince admitted publicly last summer, began in 1980, has there been any suggestion that he wished to marry Mrs Parker Bowles. Constitutional experts agreed, however, that there would be

no barrier to a divorced prince marrying a divorcee and becoming King in due course. Although Brigadier Parker Bowles is a Roman Catholic, educated at Ampleforth and Sandhurst, his wife is not.

The Prince of Wales was informed in advance of the decision. The Princess is said by friends to have acted with indifference to the news. It was in December 1992 that transcripts of the infamous "Camillagate" tapes were published around the world.

The Church's view ..... 3  
Margot Norman ..... 16  
William Rees-Mogg ..... 18  
Diary ..... 19

Mr and Mrs Parker Bowles disclosed their decision yesterday in a statement issued jointly by their respective lawyers.

The couple, who were married at the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks, in July 1973, have lived apart for more than two years. They have two children: Thomas, 20, an Oxford undergraduate, and Laura, 16, who is still at school.

The settlement for the divorce has been achieved without acrimony, said Simon Elliot, Mrs Parker Bowles' brother-in-law. Mrs Parker Bowles will retain the marital home, Middlewick House, in Wiltshire.

"It has been an amicable matter, I cannot emphasise that enough," said Mr Elliot, who is married to Mrs Parker Bowles' sister, Annabel.

"There has been no acrimony over this at all. It is just one of those very sad events."

"Middlewick will be retained by my sister-in-law, and Andrew is going to find accommodation elsewhere. I don't know exactly what his plans are," he said.

While deciding on his future, the brigadier 55, has enjoyed the hospitality of Rosemary Pitman, 43, the ex-wife of Hugh Pitman, a former regimental colleague, who invited him to stay at her flat in south Kensington.

Brigadier Parker Bowles retired from the Army last month after a distinguished career, mostly spent in the Household Cavalry; his last posting was as director of the Army Veterinary Service. Since his departure he has been attending a resettlement course for retired officers.

The announcement comes less than a week after Lord Charteris, a former private secretary of the Queen, told *The Spectator* that he thought the Prince and Princess of Wales would divorce.

The statement, which was issued by the brigadier's solicitors, Boodle Hatfield, and Charles Russell for Mrs Parker Bowles, said: "Brigadier and Mrs Parker Bowles have asked that it be known that they have instructed us to seek on their behalf a termination of their marriage, and that divorce papers have been filed with the Principal Registry. The divorce is by mutual consent, the ground being that Brigadier and Mrs Parker Bowles have lived apart for more than two years. Decree nisi is expected to be granted later this month."

In a further statement, also issued jointly through their solicitors, the couple said: "The decision to seek an end to our marriage was taken jointly and is a private matter. But as we have no expectation that our privacy will be respected, we issue this statement in the hope that it will ensure that our family and friends are saved from harassment. Most especially we ask that our children, who remain our principal concern and responsibility, be left alone to pursue their studies at what is clearly a difficult time for them."

Revealing some of the background to the couple's decision, Mr Elliot said: "The decision to seek an end to our marriage was taken jointly and is a private matter. But as we have no expectation that our privacy will be respected, we issue this statement in the hope that it will ensure that our family and friends are saved from harassment. Most especially we ask that our children, who remain our principal concern and responsibility, be left alone to pursue their studies at what is clearly a difficult time for them."



Camilla Parker Bowles: "In recent years we have led completely separate lives"

## Howard moves Parkhurst chief and six staff

By RICHARD FORD AND JONATHAN PRYNN

THE Governor of Parkhurst jail has effectively been dismissed in the aftermath of the escape of two murderers and an arsonist, John Marriott, has been removed from his post after five years as governor of one of the country's six top security jails.

A junior governor and five prison officers, including Colin Jones, the off-duty officer whose action on Sunday led to the men's recapture, have been transferred to other prisons after "very serious deficiencies in procedural and physical security" at the jail.

Mr Jones, who worked on the wing where the three men had their cells, was off duty on Sunday night when he saw the escapees and telephoned the police. He and four other officers transferred from the jail had roles in the movement of prisoners from the wings to the gymnasium and back again. It is understood that the officers will work at Camp Hill or Albany jails, also on the Isle of Wight.

Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, told MPs that Mr Marriott, who has worked at Winson Green, Nottingham and Lewes jails, would take up non-operational duties. Pending the outcome of inquiries into last week's escape, he added, Mr Marriott would not run any other jail.

The Home Secretary also announced a series of measures intended to tighten security. Better monitoring of Category A prisoners and more supervision of their activities is to be introduced. More training is to be given to staff in the emergency control room; and a governor is to be on duty at all times until prisoners are locked up at the end of the day. The number of dog teams is to be increased just a few months after it was cut from 24 to 16; improved lighting and cameras and an additional alarm system are to be installed.

The additional security measures and the swift action to remove staff from the jail come after an initial report on the breakdown by Richard Tilt, the Prison Service director of security. It has found that basic instructions were not followed, as was also the case at Whitemoor prison where Continued on page 2, col 3

## Poster chain Athena closes

Athena, the shops chain which put Che Guevara, Botticelli's Venus or a female tennis player in the bedrooms of myriad students in the 1960s, collapsed yesterday. Page 25

**INDEX**

Births, marriages, deaths ..... 20  
Bridge ..... 7  
Chess ..... 7, 48  
Court and Social ..... 24  
Crossword ..... 29  
Leading articles ..... 19  
Letters ..... 19  
Obituaries ..... 21  
Weather ..... 24  
TV & Radio ..... 46-47

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## Oxford don quits men-only club

By BEN PRESTON, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

THE old guard of London's clubland faces a renewed challenge from the high tables of Oxbridge after a leading member of the United Oxford and Cambridge University Club resigned yesterday in protest at its refusal to grant women full membership.

David Butler, the political scientist and fellow of Nuffield College, Oxford, announced that, with reluctance after 43 years, he was leaving the "comfortable and civilised" club his great-grandfather helped to found in 1817. His gesture reflects growing impatience within senior university circles at the Pall Mall club's resistance to change.

In an open letter to Gerald Bowden, the club's chairman, published today in *The Times*, Dr Butler said: "The action — or inaction — of the club committee has made it impossible for a self-respecting Oxford don to remain involved with a body that remains so flagrantly insensitive to the will of its members or the norms of contemporary British society."

Some heads of Oxbridge colleges had already left the club — which is open to graduates of both universities — in quiet protest at its behaviour. But hostilities might grow more intense: "Others are seriously considering a collective and public resignation," he said.

Women are not allowed full membership of the Oxford and Cambridge. They can enter as guests but are not allowed to walk on the marble staircase, use the library or the members' bar.

Ruth Deech, principal of St Anne's College, Oxford, resigned 14 months ago after being given honorary associate member status as a college head. She said it was "deeply insulting" to be barred from the library.

Mr Bowden, a former Conservative MP, was unavailable for comment last night. A spokesman at the club said its committee was discussing the issue of lady members.

Let the women in, page 16

## Russian journalist expelled as spy

By MICHAEL BINYON AND RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

BRITAIN was standing by last night for a senior journalist to be ordered to leave Moscow in a tit-for-tat move after the Home Office ordered the expulsion of a Russian television correspondent accused of spying.

Alexander Malikov has been given 28 days to leave London, where he has been based since before the collapse of the Soviet Union. The 43-year-old correspondent for the central Russian television channel "Ostankino" denied being a spy and said he would fight to protect his name.

Interfax news agency quoted Russian intelligence sources as denying that he was a spy.

Grigori Karasin, the Russian Foreign Ministry spokesman, said that Russia was seeking clarification from the British embassy in Moscow and that the Kremlin was "concerned" about the incident. It was widely expected that Moscow would reciprocate and that a British journalist, possibly one of the four television correspondents accredited in Moscow would be asked to leave.

In a letter dated January 4, Mr Malikov was told he must leave because "The Secretary of State is satisfied that on the basis of information he has received from confidential sources, you are a serving officer in the RFIS (Russian Foreign Intelligence Service)". It is understood there was concern that a man with an intelligence background had hoped to remain in Britain after leaving Russian journalism.

Mr Malikov said: "I am mystified. Why pick on a nice guy like me? I have never been approached by Russian security services. I am probably not smart enough to be a spy — but I am a good journalist."

Mr Malikov, who lives with his family in Kensington, interviewed John Major in Downing Street before the Prime Minister's visit to Russia last February. Mr Malikov's wife, Marina, said the spying charge was "rubbish".

## Cole goes to Old Trafford in £7m deal

ANDY COLE, 23, above, signed for Manchester United yesterday in a £7 million deal making him English football's most expensive player.

Newcastle United accepted £6 million plus £1 million winger Keith Gillespie for Cole. The England B centre-forward scored 68 goals in two years for Newcastle.

□ In Australia, the England cricketer Darren Gough sustained a stress-fracture of the left foot that is likely to put him out of the Ashes tour.

Reports, pages 44, 46, 48

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Neil Kinnock impresses Brussels inquisitors with grasp of 'multimodal transport'

## Orator of the Valleys masters EuroSpeak



Kinnock: "I'm going to have to be very careful about what I say here"

NEIL KINNOCK may not have gone native yet, but Britain's new commissioner proved to a squadron of MEPs yesterday that he can EuroSpeak with the best of them. Opaque terms such as "multimodal transport" and "DGT" tripped off a well-primed tongue as Monsieur le Commissaire Designé worked his charms on a body that was supposed to grill him.

Months of homework shone through when Mr Kinnock, who is to take over transport policy in the new Brussels executive, outlined his vision for Europe's roads, rails, air and waterways. There was no mention of gravy trains in his plan for a future of safe, clean transport, where free competition will rule the air, where ferries will stay afloat and calves can travel to their slaughter in comfort. The last point was to an Irish member who suggested Britain should worry about its citizens sleeping in cardboard boxes rather than the wellbeing of cattle.

One MEP missing from yesterday's opening of "Mr Kinnock Goes to Brussels" was his wife Glenys who was struck down by flu. All the props were there to give the commissaire a taste of the vast polyglot machine of European Union. Outside, a ballet of Mercedes, as the French call it, were depositing their deputies and assorted high functionaries at the flag-draped doors. Corridors were strewn with the steel trunks that shuttle the tons of Euro documents to Strasbourg.

■ Britain's newest EU commissioner slipped easily into the role when airing his credentials in front of the European Parliament in Brussels yesterday. Charles Bremner reports

Later this year, Mr Kinnock promised he would present a "green paper" on "intermodality" in passenger transport. That will include, he promised, "the imaginative concept of a citizens' network". His first priorities were to end the overloading of airports, improve ferry safety and make transport more accessible. One MEP complained: "I don't think your replies have been imaginative." But the sourest notes came from the British sportsports, such as Anne McIntosh, the Conservative member for Essex North and Suffolk South, who needed him about his old opposition to the Common Market. That only gave the retired Westminster orator a chance to voice his wholehearted support

for monetary union. Anyone who stays out "would come under intense pressure and continually subject to speculation against their currency". He was against a new British referendum and believed there should only be one question if it is held: "Do we stay in or do we leave?" Europe should develop the concept of cooling sovereignty, he added.

Leaping from air traffic control to maritime charter and livestock transport, Mr Kinnock dazzled much of the assembly. Flattery got him far as he massaged the sensitivities of the Euro Parliament. "Anyone who has read your report will understand..." he purred to a Dutch environmentalist. To the Spanish he noted how much he had enjoyed his trip to "peripheral regions of Spain" and he told an Italian it was all right to ramble on. "I do respect any member of parliament who wants to go on about his region. I have been doing it for 25 years."

For two hours the questions flowed, many of them no tougher

than that of Florus Wijnsebeek, one of The Netherlands group that dominates the committee, who asked: "When will all the Brits abandon their most dangerous habit of driving on the wrong side of the road?"

Only when it came to the Alps did the Welshman come unstuck. Will he order new tunnels as part of the Trans European Networks, the centrepiece of European transport policy, an Austrian wondered? A jolly answer about faith not being enough to move mountains earned a rebuke from the ecologists. "Oh dear," said Mr Kinnock. "That was a totally politically incorrect answer. God damn, I'm going to have to be very careful about what I say here."

Although translations of windbags could be heard among the chat later, the MEPs were impressed by the calibre of their new commissioner. "With that Westminster background, he could have got by without the homework but he has worked hard," one North European said.

## Driving tests hit by strike

Most of Britain's 400 driving test centres will face severe disruption today as examiners begin a campaign of industrial action in support of a pay claim.

An estimated 7,000 tests could be cancelled or postponed during the one-day strike, which will be followed by a work-to-rule and overtime ban. The Driving Standards Agency has refused a pay increase, other than a £30 a month "attendance bonus".

## MP's allegation

Rupert Allason, the Tory MP who has threatened to name five Labour MPs as being "confidential contacts" for the KGB during the Cold War, said he was waiting until today for responses from the accused politicians before he decides whether to name them publicly.

## Yard charges

Janine Barnes, 26, of Welwyn, south-east London, who is a personal assistant in the office of Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, has been charged with taking an unmarked police car from Scotland Yard's car park, driving without insurance and drink driving.

## Computer virus

Christopher Pile, 25, from Plymouth, is the first person to be charged under the Computers Misuse Act. He will appear in court next month accused of spreading two computer viruses, "Fathogen" and "Queeg", after a nine-month investigation by police.

## Rebels in line

Nine Conservative Euro-rebels, who have been deprived of the party whip, are likely to support the Government in today's key vote on the make-up of Common committees in return for assurances that they would still have a right to sit on the committees.

## Merit marque

The Tidy Britain Group yesterday launched the Millennium Marque scheme, to reward 2,000 buildings and locations that improve the quality of life and use materials and designs which suit their surroundings. The Environment Department is providing some funds.

## Thoughts of Eric

The philosophical musings of Eric Cantona are to be published in March under the title *La Philosophie de Cantona*. The book contains more than 120 pages — in English and French — of the soccer player's thoughts on topics including Manchester United and the art of football.

Reports yesterday of Peter Cook's death stated incorrectly that the *Beyond The Fringe* team (Cook, Jonathan Miller, Alan Bennett and Dudley Moore) were Cambridge students, when in fact Bennett and Moore were at Oxford.

## Fishermen plan to wage war on Spanish trawlers

By JOHN YOUNG AND JONATHAN FRYNN

FISHERMEN in Cornwall and Devon yesterday promised a "prolonged campaign" of action, beginning next month, to keep Spanish trawlers out of British waters and to persuade the Government to abandon the European Union's common fisheries policy.

After a meeting on Monday night delegates said they rejected the agreement made in Brussels last month to allow 40 Spanish trawlers to fish within the so-called "Irish box" from January next year.

Mike Townsend, chief executive of the Cornish Fish Producers' Association, said that his members would consider any means possible to stop the Spanish fishing in the 90,000 square miles around Ireland. "We have not yet determined our exact strategy, but we will rule nothing out," he said. "Being violent would only lose us public support, which we will need. But fishermen are so upset that they are certainly talking about it."

Michael Jack, the Fisheries Minister, yesterday warned against "over-simplistic solutions, which may be to the disadvantage of our fishermen in the long term", but their anger was echoed in the Commons as William



Area where number of Spanish boats are restricted

IRISH BOX: Total exclusion of Spanish boats, cod and whiting

SPAIN

UK

WALDEGRAVE, the Agriculture Minister, came under attack from southwest MPs. David Harris, the Tory MP for St Ives, said the Government had secured a "wretched package" at the meeting of European agriculture ministers.

He questioned whether Mr Waldegrave appreciated the "depth of justifiable anger" felt by fishermen, and Sir Peter Emery, Tory MP for Honiton, called for tighter policing of the agreement, which excludes Spanish vessels from the Irish Sea and the Bristol Channel, was "not wholly satisfactory".

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Clause for thought: Jim Mortimer yesterday

## Blair attacks critics

Continued from page 1  
because it was an easy thing to do. "I launched it because it is the right thing to do. The Labour Party is not a preservation society. Those who seriously believe we cannot improve on words written for the world of 1918 when we are now in 1995 are not learning from our history, but merely living in it. I want a Labour Party that looks to the future and says clearly what it means and means what it says."

Earlier, at Westminster, leaving MPs led by Tony Benn and Jim Mortimer, a former general secretary of the Labour Party, mounted a renewed Defence Clause Four campaign, saying that even if Mr

Blair achieved his aim the questions raised by the scrapping of Clause Four would dog the party for the rest of the century. Mr Benn said: "It takes away an important ingredient in our thinking... that there must be some possibility of democratic control of economic power — that is what common ownership is all about."

He decided Mr Blair's attempts to draw up a statement of aims "so vague that Paddy Ashdown and Douglas Hurd could subscribe to them".

Blair speech, and Peter Riddell, page 9  
Simon Jenkins, page 18  
Leading article, page 19

## Howard moves Parkhurst governor



Jones has been moved to another prison

Continued from page 1  
five IRA men escaped. Mr Howard told MPs: "There were serious failures at local level by both management and some individual officers to carry out basic security procedures in accordance with the Prison Service's own written instructions. Certain specific lapses on the night in question contributed significantly both to the failure to detect the escape and to the length of time which elapsed before its discovery." That that could happen so soon after the report into the Whitemoor

escape and after clear and repeated messages to prison governors and staff about security procedures was a cause for dismay, he added.

Among the lapses discovered were that the closed circuit television cameras were not being monitored by staff and that prisoners leaving the gymnasium from where the three men began their escape had not been counted.

The Prison Service's decision to force Mr Marriott to leave the jail and the transfer of six other staff stunned other governors and the Prison Offi-

cers' Association. The Prison Governors' Association accused Mr Howard of taking vindictive action and of trying to run the prison system by managing through fear.

Brendan O'Friel, chairman of the governors' association, said the decision to remove Mr Marriott was "political" and had been taken without the opportunity for all the facts to be investigated. The transfer of the five officers was condemned by their association, which said its members were being made scapegoats for the failures of others.

## 'Baton' salesman suspended

By RICHARD FORD  
HOME CORRESPONDENT

ELECTRIC shock batons, capable for use in torture, are being made in Britain and exported to China, according to a television documentary to be broadcast tonight.

In the programme, Frank Scott, the boss of ICL Technical Plastics in Glasgow, claims he has sold batons all over the world and had permission from the Scottish Office to make the weapons at his factory. He said the Trade and Industry Department paid for

him to visit China to get exports.

The disclosure in Channel Four's *Dispatches* programme comes after British Aerospace suspended one of its salesmen who claimed the firm had sold 8,000 banned electric shock batons to Saudi Arabia. He says the batons were part of the 1985 £20 billion Al-Yammamah deal, the biggest in British industry.

British Aerospace suspended Philip Morris, a salesman, who claims in the documentary that BAE is prepared to use its world wide procurement

network to supply thousands of electro-shock batons. A full investigation is taking place into the claims which were filmed secretly by an undercover team from Channel 4 who posed as arms dealers.

BAE denied that the company had sold electro-shock weapons or that the alleged supply of 8,000 to Saudi Arabia was part of the Al-Yammamah deal. "BAE does not sell such equipment and it is against company policy to sell any equipment not fully compliant with UK and international regulations."

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## SATURDAY IN THE TIMES



## The new family values

GINNY DOUGARY ON THE MAD, MAD WORLD OF THE WORKING PARENT

IN

## WEEKEND

JOANNA PITMAN ON JACQUES SANTER

## MAGAZINE

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Constitutional problem would arise only if Charles wished to marry a Roman Catholic

## 'Church would back remarried Prince as heir'

By RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

LEADERS of the Church of England, which holds that marriage is for life, would stand by the Prince of Wales as the heir to the throne and Supreme Governor of the Church, even if he were to divorce and remarry, constitutional experts said yesterday.

Dr David Starkey, lecturer in history at the London School of Economics, said the Church's "insuperable problem" in terms of its hostility to divorce was countered by the fact that it was also "terrified" of disestablishment.

The Prince of Wales will automatically become Supreme Governor of the Church of England when he accedes to the throne, whether or not he is divorced or remarried.

A constitutional problem would arise only if he wishes

### THE CHURCH

to marry a Roman Catholic, because the 1701 Act of Settlement, confirmed by Article II of the Treaty of Union between England and Scotland, fixed the succession to Protestants. Brigadier Andrew Parker Bowles is a Catholic, but Camilla Parker Bowles is not.

The Church supports the belief that marriage is for life but accepts that sometimes a marriage may die, and in that case accepts that divorce may be the best solution. Difficulties arise only when a divorced person wishes to remarry with a former partner still living.

Commenting on the decision by Brigadier and Camilla Parker Bowles to seek a divorce, the Right Rev Nigel McCulloch, Bishop of Wake-

field, said: "It is always very sad news when any marriage breaks down. Pastorally, what they need now is the space and privacy to plan their future."

Church spokesman Steve Jenkins dismissed speculation about a possible divorce of the Prince as "hypothetical". The Church of England law is that a man's being divorced is not a bar to ordination, but remarriage after divorce presents problems.

Recently, however, it became possible under canon law for the archbishops to issue a faculty in exceptional circumstances for a divorced and remarried man to be ordained. The same analogy could be applied to a sovereign, making him thereby acceptable to the Church of England.

The abdication crisis caused by Edward VIII's relationship with Mrs Simpson gave rise to the Church's 1938 Act of Convocation, which ruled that the Church's marriage service should not be used to solemnise the remarriage of divorcees, with a former partner still living, "to maintain the principle of lifelong obligation which is inherent in every legally contracted marriage".

The Church of England is reviewing its ban on the marriage of divorcees in church. Under the law of the land, clergy have the right to marry divorcees, although that goes against church law, and the practice varies.

The Archbishop of Canterbury could not go against canon law to remarry a divorced Prince of Wales in a church in England, although if the Church did not change its position, the Prince could follow the example of the Princess Royal and go to Scotland to remarry in church. His future as Supreme Governor would not be affected.

Divorce, page 1

William Rees-Mogg, page 18

## Problem is public opinion, not law

By ALAN HAMILTON

THE impending divorce of Andrew and Camilla Parker Bowles has no constitutional significance, except to increase speculation that the heir to the throne may one day take the unlikely step of marrying his mistress.

Even if he were eventually to do so, his difficulties would lie with the Church of England and public opinion rather than the law of the land, churchmen and legal experts agreed yesterday.

There has never been any serious suggestion that the Prince would eventually wish to marry Mrs Parker Bowles. His closest associates yesterday conceded that the Prince and Princess had consulted their respective lawyers on the matter of divorce, but said that no serious discussion had

### THE CONSTITUTION

taken place between the two camps on a final separation, in spite of it now being two years and one month since the couple announced formally that they were to live apart.

The Prince of Wales's aides said yesterday that nothing had changed since lawyers issued a joint statement last October making it clear "that there is no truth in reports which state that it has been agreed that a divorce shall take place, or that there have been discussions about a financial settlement between the parties".

The statement was issued in response to unconfirmed reports that the Princess of Wales was seeking a divorce settlement of about £16 million.



Brigadier Parker Bowles at an equestrian event

## A man bound by codes of faith and honour

By ALAN HAMILTON

### THE HUSBAND

AS RECENTLY as last September Brigadier Andrew Parker Bowles, in the face of mounting public humiliation, was continuing to insist that he and his wife had no plans for divorce.

But even for a Roman Catholic, taught by his church that marriage is an unbreakable bond, the strain of a highly publicised affair between his wife and the Prince of Wales finally became too much. First in 1992 there was the publication of the so-called Camillagate tapes, revealing an intimate lovers' conversation. Then, last summer, there was the Prince's television confession that not only was it all true, it had been true since 1986.

Throughout the affair Brigadier Parker Bowles has, in his few public utterances at least, displayed an unwavering discretion and loyalty to his wife. Only once did the taunts penetrate his usual easy-going good humour, when a guest in the Royal Enclosure at Ascot shouted to him: "Hey, Ernest Simpson, why don't you come over here?"

The brigadier stiffened, wheeled and grasped the guest roughly by the arm. "I don't ever want to hear you talk to me like that again," he hissed. "Do you understand? Never." The guest, Lord Charles Spencer-Churchill, recalled that the next day his arm was black and blue.

Brigadier Parker Bowles's code of honour is in part a

product of his having been hand-in-glove with the Royal Family almost since birth. His father Derek was a Household Cavalry officer, Jockey Club steward and Berkshire landowner whose seat was Donnington Castle House near Newbury; his mother, Dame Ann, was a close friend and distant cousin of the Queen Mother.

The young Andrew was a page at the Queen's coronation in 1953, rode in the Household Cavalry detachment accompanying the Prince and Princess of Wales at their wedding procession in 1981, and named the Prince as godson to his first child Thomas, who is now a 20-year-old Oxford undergraduate. The Queen in 1987 appointed him Silver Stick in Waiting, a ceremonial guard to the sovereign.

He earned the admiration of his men during his com-

mand of an armoured squadron in Londonderry at the height of the Irish Troubles in 1972. Eight years later he found himself as an aide-de-camp to Lord Soames, the last Governor of Southern Rhodesia, during the transition to Zimbabwe. Colleagues recall his courageous forays alone into the bush to persuade hostile and often heavily armed guerrillas to come to the assembly points and hand over their weapons.

Those who know him speak of his immense and genuine charm, his jollity and his easy conversation. Before their respective marriages — both in 1973 — Parker Bowles's name was linked strongly with that of Princess Anne. But like his marriage, that liaison was doomed, if for different reasons. The Queen's daughter, mindful of the Royal Marriages Act and the Act of Settlement, was unlikely ever to marry a Roman Catholic, however loyal he might be.



The marriage to Camilla at the Guards Chapel

## Parting is agreed amicably

### THE SETTLEMENT

UNDER the terms of the divorce settlement, Camilla Parker Bowles will retain the marital home — Middlewick House, in Corsham, Wiltshire (Emma Wilkins writes). The couple sold their second home in Fulham, west London, several years ago, and Brigadier Andrew Parker Bowles has been staying with friends in Kensington while he makes plans.

The settlement has been achieved jointly and without acrimony, Mrs Parker

Bowles's brother-in-law said. "It has been an amicable matter. I cannot emphasise that enough," Simon Elliot said. "Middlewick will be retained by my sister-in-law, and Andrew is going to find accommodation elsewhere." Brigadier Parker Bowles's family have substantial property interests in Berkshire, where he was born at Donnington Castle House. The

500-acre Middlewick estate is 15 miles from the Prince of Wales's country home at Highgrove, Gloucestershire. A divorce can be obtained as quickly as three months, if both sides agree, although if government proposals are enacted, the period could be a year. The Parker Bowles divorce petition will join hundreds of undefended cases dealt with each month largely on paper by the Principal Registry of the Family Division at Somerset House.

## Affairs followed royal disposition for matrimonial entanglements

By EMMA WILKINS



The affair of Alice Keppel, left, and Edward VII was echoed by Camilla Parker Bowles and Charles, below



THE Prince of Wales is far from the first heir to the throne or King of England to have enjoyed tangled matrimonial circumstances. Others include Henry VIII, George IV and William IV. In the early days of their relationship, Camilla Parker Bowles is said to have reminded the Prince that her great-grandmother, Alice Keppel, was the mistress of his great-grandfather, Edward VII. It is claimed she suggested to him: "So how about it?"

Henry VIII broke with Rome in order to divorce his first wife, Catherine of Aragon, who had failed to provide him with a male heir. His fourth marriage, to the German princess Anne of Cleves, whom he disliked, was also brought to an end by divorce.

George IV, who ruled as regent from 1811 when his father George III became insane, was married secretly to Maria Fitzherbert in 1785. The marriage was invalid because members of the Royal Family under the age of 25 were forbidden to marry without the King's consent. George was 23 at the time of the wedding.

In 1795, in order to induce Parliament to pay his debts,

the Prince contracted a loveless marriage with his cousin Caroline, daughter of the Duke of Brunswick. A few weeks after the birth of their only child Princess Charlotte, in 1796, the couple separated.

Following George's accession to the throne in 1820 on the death of his father, Caroline returned to England from Italy to claim her rights as Queen Consort. The problem was solved by her death in 1821.

William IV, who was George III's third son, became King in 1830 on the death of his brother George

### HISTORY

IV. Between 1794 and 1807, William, then Duke of Clarence, had 10 illegitimate children by the Irish comedy actress Dorothea Jordan, who were given the surname FitzClarence. Some historians believe that William married Mrs Jordan in secret.

His subsequent marriage to Princess Adelaide of Saxe-Meiningen produced two daughters, both of whom died in infancy. On his death in 1837 a succession crisis was resolved when the crown passed to his niece, Princess Victoria.

## Divorce 'will not affect royal couple'

Continued from page 1

tion, the statement continued: "Throughout our marriage we have always tended to follow rather different interests, but in recent years we have led completely separate lives. We have grown apart to such an extent that, with the exception of our children and a lasting friendship, there is little of common interest between us, and we have therefore decided to seek divorce."

The brigadier is understood to have reached a decision on his retirement from the Army, giving him a chance to reassess his life. He has also remained completely loyal towards his wife and the Royal Family in public in spite of a barrage of humiliation that began with the publication of the "Camillagate" tapes and culminated last summer in the Prince's admission during a television interview with Jonathan Dimbleby that he had had an affair with Mrs Parker Bowles which began in 1986.

In fact, the couple's association goes back much further, to before either was married. The Prince first met Camilla Shand at a Windsor polo match in 1970, and there was speculation at the time that they might marry. The Prince, however, proceeded through a string of variously eligible partners before becoming engaged to Lady Diana Spencer in 1980. There has been much speculation that the Prince continued his association with Mrs Parker Bowles before his marriage, resuming the relationship, by his own admission, in 1986 when his own marriage had reached the point of irretrievable failure.

First proof of a liaison, however, came with the publication in 1992 of a secretly recorded private telephone conversation, said to have been made in 1989, in which the couple engaged in intimate and scatological conversation.

Since separating from his wife, Brigadier Parker Bowles has also stayed with

Lady Annabel Lindsay, a widow, who lives in Holland Park, west London. The pair have known each other since the 1960s.

Mrs Pitman was divorced from her husband Hugh, three years ago after 30 years of marriage. Lieutenant-Colonel Pitman retired from the Army in 1981 to start a recruitment company which he built up to a turnover of £10 million over ten years.

Mrs Pitman, who has three sons, has a cottage at Brokenborough, near Malmesbury — close to the Parker Bowles family home. The local church expressed their sadness at the news of the impending divorce: "I think it is very sad news, but I can't say anything more than that," a spokesman said.

The Prince, who was aware of the divorce announcement before he flew back from a skiing holiday in Switzerland, spent the day at Highgrove yesterday. Mrs Parker Bowles was staying with friends.

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Judge limits daughter's damages award to £16,000

# Abuse victim fails to win therapy costs from father

By Lucy Berrington

A WOMAN was awarded more than £16,000 damages from her adopted father yesterday for childhood sexual abuse but failed in her attempt to force him to contribute substantially to the cost of psychiatric treatment.

Helen Green, 24, had sought £45,000 in damages — £15,000 compensation and £30,000 for future medical treatment — in what her lawyers said was the first serious attempt to assess the cost of prolonged psychotherapy in such cases. However, she was awarded £16,764 including £384 interest at Colchester County Court, which was told that 11 years of sexual abuse had resulted in post-traumatic stress syndrome. She was also awarded costs estimated at £20,000.

The court was told that the abuse had prevented her from completing her university examinations and having a normal relationship with her boyfriend, and resulted in her

developing an eating disorder and clinical depression.

Edward Green, 72, a retired chartered accountant, had sexually abused her after adopting her from a children's home when she was two, the court was told. He was not in court yesterday but had admitted liability.

Judge Bradbury said he was not convinced that Miss Green would undergo the psychiatric treatment advised by a psychiatrist specialising in cases of childhood sexual abuse. He awarded £13,000 compensation, £2,500 towards future treatment and £880 to cover counselling already received. Miss Green, who waived her right to anonymity "in the public interest", had received counselling but stopped her treatment while pursuing the legal action. "If I had counselling now it would just be me talking about courts and solicitors," she had told the court. "That isn't addressing the issue," Miss Green,



Helen Green: wanted abuse legally recognised

who lives with her boyfriend in Handforth in Cheshire, confronted her father about the abuse in 1986 on the advice of a counsellor. Mr Green agreed she should leave the family home but he maintained contact until 1994. In a letter written in November 1991, shortly before the case was investigated by police,

Edward Green told her: "I am trying to sort myself out. I have set in motion an arrangement to see a psychiatrist to see if he can explain to me how I got into this mess, because otherwise I have to believe that I am intrinsically evil."

He said he had been asked to give a statement to police. "I may well feel better afterwards to have got it off my mind. Love you, Dad." He was cautioned by police shortly afterwards but Helen was studying for examinations and refused to press charges.

Mr Green and his wife Pauline are selling their £275,000 manor house in Uffington, Lincolnshire. He had been granted legal aid to fight the case.

Miss Green's solicitor said the case illustrated the legal profession's resistance to psychotherapy. Miss Green had rejected three out of court settlements, including an offer of £20,000, because she wanted the abuse legally recognised after she had been ostracised by her family.



Dame Vera at the launch of the commemorative coin yesterday

## Dame Vera launches European peace coin

A COMMEMORATIVE £2 coin marking fifty years of peace in Europe was unveiled by Dame Vera Lynn yesterday. Part of the proceeds will go to the Royal British Legion.

The coin, symbolising reconciliation, features a dove, and the edge is inscribed "1945 In Peace Goodwill 1995". The coin comes in three versions — a limited edition gold coin at £295, a silver coin at £26.50 and a nickel-brass version at £4.50. Last year, the British Legion received £100,000 from sales of the D-Day commemorative 50p coin.

Sir Geoffrey Dalton, president of the legion, said: "We are sure this will be a success. This support gives us tremendous encouragement in carrying out our work."

Dame Vera, 77, who this summer will star at a number of events to celebrate the end of the Second World War, said: "We know the legion is very much in need of money so we sincerely hope that even more money will be raised this year."

### SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

Dealer South Love all. Rubber bridge

|                   |          |        |         |
|-------------------|----------|--------|---------|
| ♠ KQ              | ♥ J1088  | ♦ J104 | ♣ J1054 |
| ♠ A87             | ♥ KQ54   | ♦ 1063 | ♣ J92   |
| ♠ J10942          | ♥ A32    | ♦ AQ52 | ♣ 3     |
| S                 | W        | N      | E       |
| 16                | Pass     | 24     | Pass    |
| 24                | Pass     | 34     | Pass    |
| 44 (1)            | All pass |        |         |
| Opening lead: ♠ J |          |        |         |

By ROBERT SHEEHAN  
BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

(1) Unwise — his partner's high cards are too likely to be in the wrong place.

A few weeks ago I gave a hand in which the defenders' trump holding was A x opposite singleton king. The declarer played a side suit which either defender could ruff. But if the defender ruffed with the small trump the ace and king subsequently fell on the same trick, and if either defender ruffed high the declarer got away a loser and subsequently only lost one trump trick.

Today's hand, from the £3 game at St John's Wood Bridge Club, has a similar theme. On the lead of the jack of hearts the declarer appears to have four top losers. But see

what happens if the declarer plays four rounds of diamonds, throwing a heart from dummy on the fourth round. If West ruffs, the defence subsequently make only two more top trumps: if East ruffs low, the declarer subsequently plays trumps, crashing the defence's three honours in two rounds.

#### Macallan Pairs

The Macallan International Bridge Pairs Championship, in association with *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*, will be held at the White House Hotel, Albany Street, London NW1, on January 25-27. For details and tickets contact the English Bridge Union, Broadfields, Bicester Road, Aylesbury, Bucks HP19 3BG (tel: 0296 394414).

### KEENE on CHESS

By RAYMOND KEENE  
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

#### Fine strategy

Harry Golombek OBE (1911-1993) who died at the weekend will be remembered on the chessboard for his firm grasp of fine strategic principles. It was his firm view that only when an opponent had been strategically outplayed was it possible to deliver an elegant tactical coup de grace. The following game illustrates his principles in action, concluding as it does with a queen sacrifice to force checkmate.

White: Golombek  
Black: Norman-Hansen  
Margate 1935

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| Queen's Indian Defence |  |
| 1 d4 Nf6               |  |
| 2 Nf3 b6               |  |
| 3 c4 Bb7               |  |
| 4 g3 Bg7               |  |
| 5 Bg2 0-0              |  |
| 6 0-0 d5               |  |
| 7 Nc3 c6               |  |
| 8 Ne5 Nbd7             |  |
| 9 b3 Rf8               |  |
| 10 Bb2 Qc7             |  |
| 11 Rc1 Qc7             |  |
| 12 f4 Bg8              |  |
| 13 Bx3 Qx3             |  |
| 14 e4 Nxe5             |  |
| 15 e4 Nxe4             |  |
| 16 Ne5 dxe4            |  |
| 17 Bxe4                |  |



|              |               |
|--------------|---------------|
| 18 Nxe4 Qe7  |               |
| 19 Qf5       |               |
| 20 exd6 gxf6 |               |
| 21 Nd6+ Kf8  |               |
| 22 Qe5 Qg7   |               |
| 23 Rf4 c5    |               |
| 24 Rxf1 cxd4 |               |
| 25 Nf5       | Black resigns |

After 25... Qxe5 26 Rxf8+ leads to mate.

The first women's world champion, Vera Menchik, was killed by enemy action in London in 1944. The recent Hastings tournament was named in her honour. In the early 1930s Menchik often defeated the leading British masters, but with the advent of Harry Golombek she met her match, as this game shows.

White: Golombek  
Black: Menchik  
London 1937

|                         |               |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| Queen's Gambit Accepted |               |
| 1 d4 c5                 |               |
| 2 c4 cxd4               |               |
| 3 Nf3 e6                |               |
| 4 e3 Bg4                |               |
| 5 Bc4 Qc7               |               |
| 6 Qc2 Qc7               |               |
| 7 Ne5 Nf5               |               |
| 8 0-0 Nd7               |               |
| 9 f4 Nxe5               |               |
| 10 fxe5 dxe5            |               |
| 11 Bb3 c5               |               |
| 12 Be4 Bc7              |               |
| 13 Bc2 c4               |               |
| 14 Qc2 Qc7              |               |
| 15 Bb5 Ne7              |               |
| 16 Nf3 Nc6              |               |
| 17 Nf3 Nc6              |               |
| 18 Bb4 Nf4              |               |
| 19 Bxb4 Bb7             |               |
| 20 a4 a5                |               |
| 21 axb5 Bxb5            |               |
| 22 d5 Bg6               |               |
| 23 d6 Bx6               |               |
| 24 Qxe4 Bb8             |               |
| 25 Nd4                  | Black resigns |

White's passed pawn on d6 guarantees a quick victory.

Winning Move, page 48

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## Audit Commission blames inefficiency on weak councillors and overpaid management

## Local councils accused of wasting £1 billion a year

By IAN MURRAY, COMMUNITY CORRESPONDENT



Sir Jeremy Beecham: rejects claim that senior staff are overpaid

TOO many local government officers are inefficiently employed, large numbers are overpaid and only a few councils function even adequately, according to two damning reports by the Audit Commission published today.

In a blunt warning that services everywhere are bound to deteriorate if authorities do not make urgent radical changes, the commission blames central government, weak councillors, poor management and archaic, entrenched work practices for wasting up to £1 billion a year of taxpayers' money.

The commission is so concerned by its findings that it is staging two major conferences for councillors, chief executives and senior managers to put its message across. All councillors are being sent a checklist to help them to find out how their authority is going wrong, and a weighty handbook of good practice will be issued by Easter to provide in-depth guidance on how to put things right. The

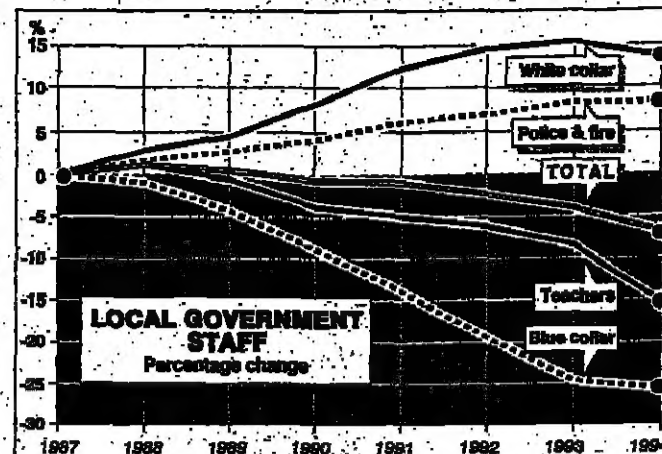
commission says reform is urgent because over the next three years the Government is determined to cut local government spending in real terms by 6 per cent, excluding community care. That is in contrast to the 13 per cent real growth in spending since 1986. If councils fail to control their pay bills, the commission says many will be unable to balance resources with service commitments.

In studying more than 300 authorities, the commission found that between 1986 and 1993 the number of non-manual staff rose by 90,000 to 730,000 and the pay bill for them increased by 85 per cent. The number of senior posts increased by 60 per cent, with 45,000 new jobs paying over £16,000 a year. At the same time the number of manual workers fell by 150,000, or 25 per cent, and the number of teachers was cut by 50,000 or 10 per cent.

The commission says that central government was responsible for half the growth in non-manual staff by introducing ini-

tiatives such as community care and increased numbers of school-based non-teaching staff. Many more were employed by councils to cope with imposed changes. "Central government needs to consider how far its aim of achieving a freeze in the public-sector pay bill is consistent with local government to pursue," the commission says. "Local government will be better able to improve productivity and freeze pay bills if central government shows restraint in imposing new and radical changes on local authorities."

The commission is equally scathing about the failure of councils to adopt management structures and reach logical decisions about necessary cuts in spending. "Senior HQ staff often escape unscathed while the council freezes vacancies or cuts the number of front-line staff," according to the commission. "Although costs are reduced, there is no automatic improvement in productivity. Service levels and



quality may be undermined. Decisions are often based upon historic precedent or 'decibel planning', where the loudest voice wins the most money."

The commission found vast variations in salary levels for jobs of similar responsibility, with some officers in the same authority being paid twice as much as others of equal rank. Secrecy between councils meant that neighbouring authorities

since "the demands on services seem almost infinite". Its complaint is that staff are usually in the dark about council policy while no mechanism exists for front-line services to report back on how well they are functioning.

Sir Jeremy Beecham, chairman of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, said on behalf of local authority associations: "Any idea that local government is 'stuffed with unnecessary and overpaid bureaucrats' would be nonsense. The 60 per cent rise in senior staff was in response to government policy and included professionals such as child-care workers, environmental health officers and consumer protection staff."

Audit Commission conferences will be held on January 31 at Cavendish Conference Centre, London, and on February 8 at the Hilton Hotel, Leeds.

□ *Paying the Piper: People and Pay Management in Local Government*, £10. *Calling the Tune: Performance Management in Local Government*, £9 (both HMSO)

## BBC sets aside £1m for film talent

THE BBC is launching a £1 million fund to provide "seed corn" finance for new British writers, producers and directors (Alexandra Frean writes).

The fund, which is being financed from a reserve account created by John Birt, the corporation's Director-General, will be used solely to help struggling film-makers in the independent sector.

George Fisher, head of BBC single drama, said that unless the Corporation acted quickly to snap up emerging new talent, it would be lost to its commercial rivals.

Grants of up to £100,000 will be distributed from the fund to applicants by a small panel of film-makers including Danny Boyle, director of *Shallow Grave* and Beban Kidron, director of *Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit*.

Media, page 23

## Tests offered to 1,300 patients of dentist who defied Aids work ban

By JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

A DENTIST suffering from Aids continued treating patients despite being told to stop practising, two London health authorities said yesterday. At least 1,300 of his former patients, including 67 children, are to be offered free HIV tests and counselling.

Dr Vikram Advani treated patients at his private practice in Kensington for six months after beginning hospital treatment for Aids in February 1993. He lied to hospital consultants, telling them he had given up his practice. He died of an Aids-related illness the following November. Earlier he had an NHS practice in Camden but withdrew from it in 1991. It is not known when he discovered he was HIV-positive.

The two health authorities

are contacting patients treated by Dr Advani since January 1988, alerting them to the "small risk" of having contracted the virus. At a news conference yesterday, Professor Newell Johnson, of King's College School of Dentistry, said the only case in the world in which an HIV-infected health worker had passed the virus to a patient involved a dentist in Florida.

"The most telling piece of evidence is that over a decade there has been only this one case. Worldwide, over 22,000 patients known to have been treated by 63 HIV-positive health workers, including 33 dentists, have been followed up and there has been not a single case of transmission apart from the Florida case."

The case of Dr Advani has

raised concerns that existing guidelines for health workers infected with HIV are inadequate. John James, chief executive of Kensington, Chelsea and Westminster health authority, said that Dr Advani had told the consultants looking after him that he had ceased practising. "After his death it transpired that he had not done so," he said.

John Hunt, chief executive of the British Dental Association, said compensation should be offered to encourage HIV-infected health workers to give up practising. "You can imagine that a person who knows he is likely to die within a period of years, perhaps desperately needs to keep practising as long as he can to keep him and his family going," he said.



Hayley Gladstone, who received her engineering award from Gillian Shephard

## Engineer builds bridges for women

A WOMAN engineer proved her career teacher wrong yesterday when she won a prestigious award 12 years after being told she had no chance of finding a job in a male-dominated industry.

Hayley Gladstone, who is senior project manager for the telecommunications company GPT in Coventry, was named Young Woman Engineer of the Year. She has overseen projects that include the modernisation of communications on the Peckham Metro. Next month she and her husband Phil, who also works for GPT, move to Hong Kong where she will manage a contract for the new airport extension.

Receiving her award from Gillian Shephard, the Education Secretary, Mrs Gladstone, 28, from Solihull, West Midlands, recalled telling her career teacher at The Hill Wood girls comprehensive school in Coventry she wanted to be an engineer. "She told me I didn't stand a chance. The image of the engineer was of grease behind the fingernails. But a lot of engineering work is now computer-based and I would advise girls not to be put off."

The Institution of Electronics and Electrical Incorporated Engineers, which sponsored the award, has only 300 women among its 27,000 members.

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BARCLAYS

## Food store price wars 'undermine healthy diets'

By ROBIN YOUNG

SUPERMARKET price wars are undermining healthy eating guidelines because discounts are heavily biased towards fatty, sugary foods, according to a report published today.

A survey by the Food Commission of discount lines offered in four leading supermarket chains showed that fatty, sugary foods constituted the largest category of foods promoted by all the supermarkets except Sainsbury. None promoted a range of products in line with the Department of Health's *National Food Guide*, published last year, which recommended that a third of diet should consist of fruit and vegetables, and a third of bread, cereals and potatoes.

While the guidelines suggest that fatty and sugary foods should form the smallest part of a diet, the commission found that at Kwik Save 38 per cent of the discounted lines were those categorised as sugary and fatty foods. At Sainsbury the proportion was 34 per cent. Fruit and vegetables accounted for only a tenth to a fifth of discounts.

"The supermarkets are encouraging poor diets among those who have to watch their money," said Dr. Tim Lobstein, author of the report published today in *The Food Magazine*. "These are precisely the people who are already suffering high rates of obesity and ill-health related to diet."

Dr Lobstein said that the policy of cutting prices on sugary and fatty foods such as burgers, chips, crisps, jams,

biscuits, cakes, ice-cream and soft drinks in preference to fruit and vegetables "contradicts the supermarkets' own avowed policies of encouraging better diets".

The report criticises the quality of foods sold on special promotions, saying that added water and fat are often a feature of low-cost lines on which nutrition labelling is either scanty or missing. The commission found Tesco apples pies which contained more fat than fruit. Sainsbury fruit yoghurt with more added water than fruit, and Kwik Save and Tesco meat grills and burgers made principally of mechanically recovered meat.

Spokesmen from all the supermarket chains yesterday claimed that they regularly offered promotions on fruit, vegetable, and cereal products, and said price competition was just as keen there as in other sectors. "We believe it is possible to enjoy a completely healthy diet while buying solely low cost or discounted lines," a spokesman for Kwik Save said.

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# Labour will strive to shape future of Europe, says Blair

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Kohl agents identify 22,000 Muslim radicals

## Bonn fears Algerian war on German soil

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

HELMUT KOHL, the German Chancellor, is becoming increasingly nervous that France will suck his country and indeed the whole European Union into the Algerian Government's war with Islamic fundamentalists.

Pressure has been growing from France to control more closely Rabah Kebir, the exiled leader of the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS). According to police sources, this has led to electronic surveillance of Mr Kebir, who lives near Cologne. At the same time, the French Foreign Ministry has been urging the Germans to give Mr Kebir a measure of freedom so that he can take part in eventual peace negotiations.

These apparently conflicting demands from Paris have confused Germany and have added to the high level of anxiety about the Algerian conflict. Hans-Ludwig Zacher, the head of the German Federal Criminal Investiga-

tion Office, said at the weekend that "Islamic extremist attacks against Germans could no longer be ruled out".

The German counter-espionage service has prepared a report entitled "Islamic extremism and its effects on the Federal Republic of Germany" which identifies 14 radical Muslim groups and more than 22,000 active sympathisers in Germany. The report was buried in the German security bureaucracy for some months but after the Christmas hijacking, when members of the Armed Islamic Group (GIA), an FIS splinter organisation, seized an Air France airliner — the Chancellor's office unearthed the document.

Bernard Schmidbauer, Herr Kohl's security adviser, has made the close tracking of Islamic extremists in Germany a priority for the various police and intelligence services. The German police

believe that weapons, radio transmitters and detonators are being bought in Germany and Eastern Europe and then transported to Algeria.

The fear is that when the Schengen open-border agreement is implemented at the end of March there will be no effective control of Islamic radicals crossing from France. That way, a crisis for one European member state will rapidly become a crisis for the whole Union.

Politically, the Germans are worried on two additional counts. First, France may use the instability in Algeria to push for an even more ambitious Mediterranean aid programme at the expense of Central Europe, Germany's natural area of interest.

Second, the position of Charles Pasqua, the French Interior Minister, may be strengthened as France intensifies its internal policing campaign against Muslim radi-

cals. M Pasqua is not popular with the German Government, which views him as the main obstacle to a swift passage of a convention setting up the Europol police network.

The counter-espionage report indicates strongly that the German authorities have been keeping a careful watch on Mr Kebir. He applied for asylum in Germany in November 1992 and has since built up a web of Islamic activists in the country who openly campaign against the present Algerian regime and want to set up a Koranic theocracy.

Mr Kebir denies that the FIS uses violent methods. "We have chosen the peaceful political path," he said recently. That was enough to gain at least provisional approval for his asylum application. But the counter-espionage service remains sceptical.

FIS sympathisers living in Germany have been involved in the dispatch of weapons and other technical material to Algeria," says the report.

Hamburg has been at the centre of much of the German investigation. It is from the northern port that equipment and weapons have been transhipped to Algeria. The "Islamic Centre" in Hamburg "counts as one of the chief ideological centres in Western Europe in propagating Iranian-style Islam", according to the report.

It also claims that extremists have infiltrated the Union of Islamic Student Associations in Europe, which are particularly active in university cities in Germany. It alleges that there is an active recruitment campaign centred on Germany's many mosques. At least two million Muslims, mostly Turks, live in Germany. The danger, according to German officials, is that radical Turks will make common cause with FIS sympathisers.

## Exiled opposition leaders offer deal to end civil strife

BY TUNKU VARADARAJAN

ALGERIAN opposition leaders, gathered in Rome for informal talks, announced yesterday they had agreed on a draft proposal to end their country's three-year civil war.

Those attending the conference — conducted under the auspices of Sant'Egidio, a non-governmental Catholic peace group — include Attaw Haddam, a senior member in exile of the outlawed Islamic Salvation Front (FIS). Mr Haddam said that the document would "provide hope for the future".

Also attending the talks are representatives of the secular opposition, such as Abdel-

hamid Mehri, general secretary of the National Liberation Front, and Hocine Ait Ahmed, the outspoken leader of the Socialist Front Forces.

According to Ahmed Ben Bella, who led Algeria's first Government after independence, and who is also present at the Sant'Egidio conference, "an agreement on several fundamental questions will be made public either today or on Thursday".

Last night, the Algerian Government criticised "personalities and parties who have exported the national political debate to foreign soil". A spokesman said the

Government "will not tolerate any external interference in Algeria's internal affairs".

The latest round of talks in Rome began three days after the first public condemnation by the FIS of attacks on civilians since the eruption of the civil war in January 1992. In a statement issued in Bonn, its leadership in exile condemned "all acts which affect innocents, whatever their tendency or their religion."

Algeria's Mokdad Sifi, the Prime Minister, set up a seven-member ministerial committee to organise presidential elections promised for this year. (Reuters)



Muhammad Nagui Mustafa, one of two men sentenced to death, shouts his defiance

## Cairo novelist's attackers to hang

BY GENEVIE ABDO IN CAIRO

AN Egyptian military court sentenced two men to death yesterday for the near-fatal stabbing of Naguib Mahfouz, the Nobel prize-winning novelist.

The court in Hukstep, a suburb northeast of Cairo, sentenced 12 other men to prison terms ranging from three to 25 years for their involvement in the stabbing outside Mahfouz's Cairo home in October. The author, 83, is seen as a thorn in the side of Muslim extremists.

Clutching the bars of their cage inside the dim court-

room, the men protested after the sentences were read. Some shouted in solidarity with Shaikh Omar Abdel Rahman, a blind Muslim cleric spiritual leader of Egypt's main Islamic militant group, the Gama al-Islamiya. Shaikh Rahman, now in prison in New York, issued a religious order in 1989, based on Mahfouz's writings, declaring him an apostate.

The defendants' families, who were barred from the court, wailed and recited Koranic verses on hearing the news. The mother of one

defendant tried to chase a police van carrying her son, but she collapsed in the sand.

The attempt on Mahfouz's life raised fears that insurgents in Egypt were following in the footsteps of Muslim militants in Algeria, who have killed many writers, journalists and artists in a relentless campaign to topple the military-backed regime. "There is a possibility this attack was the beginning of what we are seeing in Algeria," said Alain Roussillon, a French scholar living in Cairo and an expert on Islamic movements.

## Morocco tries seven French extremists

FROM ADAM SAGE IN PARIS

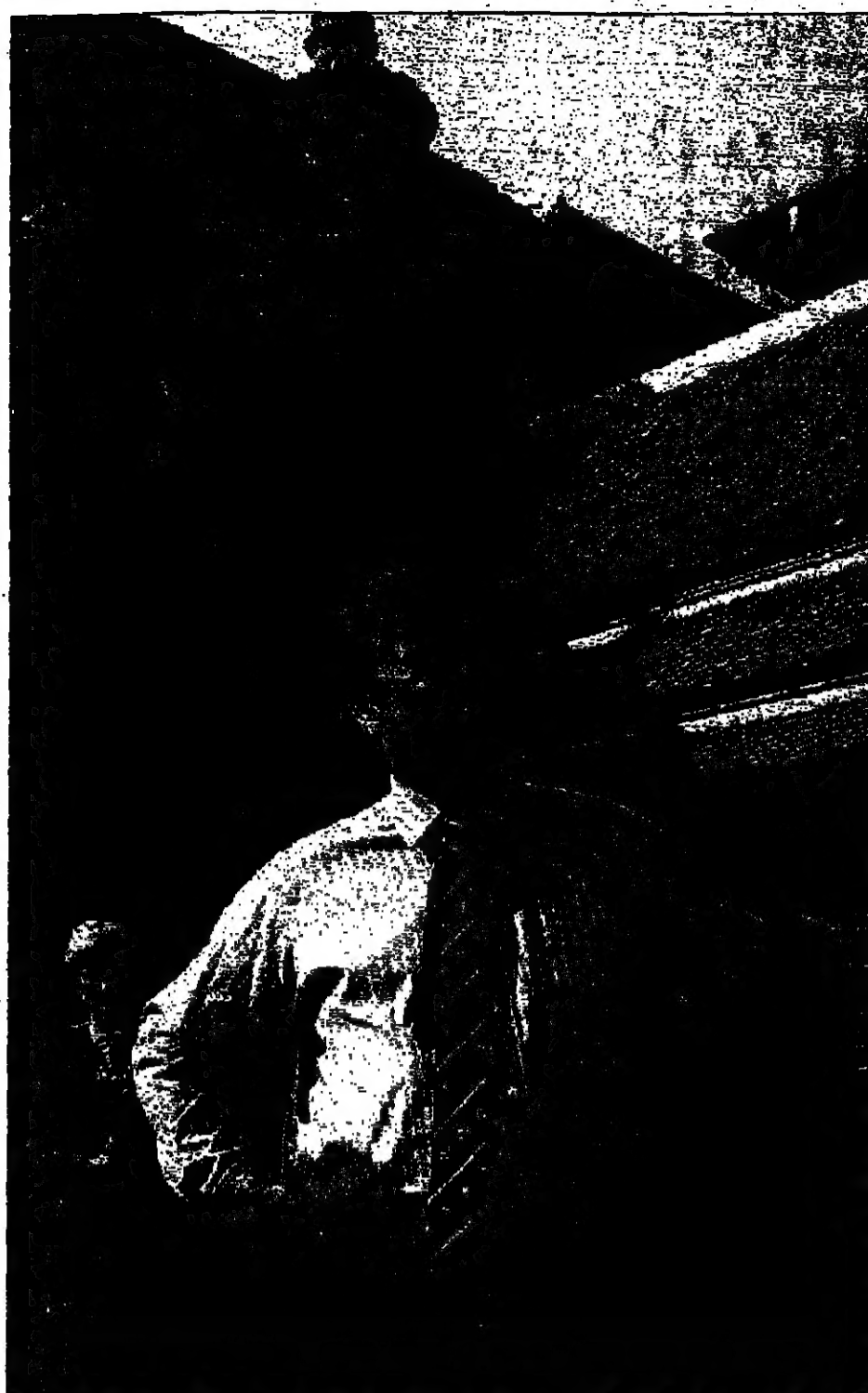
THE trial of seven French Muslims, charged with orchestrating terrorist attacks last summer that left two people dead, began in Morocco yesterday.

At least two of the defendants at the hearing in Fez are facing death sentences for their role in the shooting of a group of Spanish tourists in Marrakesh in August.

Stephané Ait Idrir, 22, and Hamoudi Radouane, 23, have told their lawyers that they "do not fear the punishment of God". Their confessions offer graphic evidence of the inroads made by Islamic fundamentalists into France's disinherited Muslim youth, according to the French press.

Mr Ait Idrir and Mr Radouane say they were recruited on their rundown estate to the north of Paris, encouraged to follow the Koran, and finally sent to Islamic training camps in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

The five other Frenchmen come from similar backgrounds, with Islam offered as an alternative to the drugs and unemployment of French suburbs, and were sent out to North Africa on missions to "destabilise the Moroccan economy".



Kenneth Clarke, Chancellor of the Exchequer, visits the Temple of the Emerald Buddha in Bangkok yesterday at the end of a six-day visit to Thailand to promote British business.

Vijit Suptin, Bank of Thailand governor, briefed him on the liberalisation of the Thai financial market. Mr Clarke had suggested that the rela-

## Clarke ends Thai visit

tively slow opening of Thai financial markets had so far inhibited British investors. But Mr Vijit, citing proposed expansion of the Bangkok International Banking Facility and other

banking licences, said Thailand was ahead of some other Southeast Asian countries in deregulating financial markets and the finance sector in advance of world trade requirements. Mr Clarke, who later left for Vietnam, said Thailand should place more emphasis on high-technology industries. (Reuters)

## Slovo to be buried in Soweto

FROM MICHAEL HAMLYN IN JOHANNESBURG

AVALON cemetery in southern Soweto, the black city on the outskirts of Johannesburg, is to be the last resting place of Joe Slovo, the Communist Minister of Housing who died last Friday.

Mr Slovo will be the first white man to be buried there. Helen Joseph, the anti-apartheid campaigner, was also buried there.

Mr Slovo's funeral on Sunday promises to be an occasion of much ceremony, although as a Jewish atheist,

the religious content of his multi-denominational farewell at a Soweto sports stadium may be expected to be minimal. He was the darling of the townships and countless children have been named Slovo in his honour, so the emotional content will be high. More than 300 overseas guests have been invited to attend, including President Castro of Cuba, who is said to have been a great friend.

Tributes, some from surpri-

ng quarters, have continued to pour in. One from *The Citizen* newspaper, generally regarded as expressing the views of Johannesburg's blue-collar whites, paid gracious tribute to the man they once regarded as "a terror master who was responsible for death and injury to innocent people". The newspaper called him "a towering intellect, an astute negotiator and a Minister of Housing who was both innovative and pragmatic".



Daw Suu Kyi: status of Nelson Mandela

## Rabin vows to hold on to east Jerusalem

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

YITZHAK RABIN, the Israeli Prime Minister, yesterday returned to the narrow streets of Jerusalem's Old City which, as Chief of Staff, he captured from the Arabs in 1967. He vowed during his visit that Israel would never hand back annexed east Jerusalem or key parts of the occupied West Bank under any final peace deal with the Palestinians.

His remarks, made during an official tour of both east and west Jerusalem with Ehud Olmert, the right-wing mayor, appeared designed to provoke further Palestinian anger at the very moment Egypt was issuing a warning that continued expansion of Jewish settlements had created a crisis in relations between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation. The Egyptian announcement came after an emergency meeting in Cairo between President Mubarak and Yasser Arafat, the PLO leader. Amr Moussa, the Egyptian Foreign Minister, claimed that the ex-

pansion of settlements on occupied land was a serious violation of international law.

Mr Arafat has asked the United States to intervene to stop Israel funding and expanding Jewish settlements. Nabil Shaath, a PLO official, said yesterday that Mr Arafat made his request during a meeting with an American official in Jerusalem.

Despite all the rhetoric yesterday, another West Bank settlement emerged as a new flash point between Jews and Arabs as residents of the Jewish enclave of Elkana began erecting a barbed wire fence on a nearby hillside where they plan to expand. Scores of Palestinians from a nearby Arab village demonstrated and three were arrested.

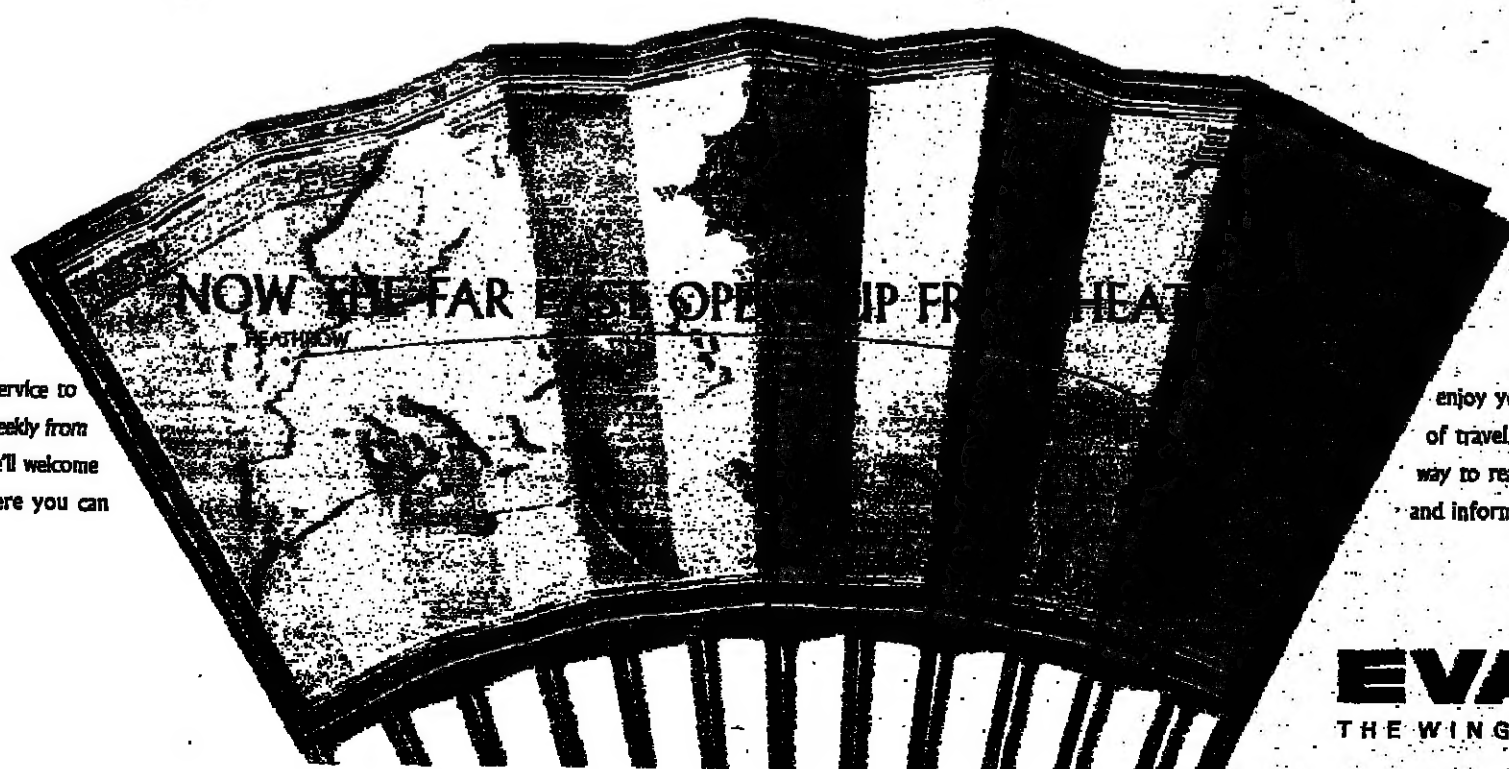
Mr Rabin, speaking at a Jewish school constructed on land captured from Jordan in 1967, refused to contemplate a halt to all settlement activity, however. "I am not prepared for there to be a law in

Israel to forbid building houses in existing settlements or a kindergarten or a cultural centre," he said.

The PLO has called a general strike throughout the occupied territories on January 15 to protest against the settlement building. A leading official in the Israeli Housing Ministry has, however, disclosed government plans to proceed with the construction of 10,000 Jewish homes in east Jerusalem this year.

Mr Rabin, responding to a question from a 17-year-old pupil, ruled out the PLO's claim to east Jerusalem. "The supreme thing is a united Jerusalem as the capital of Israel under Israeli sovereignty," Mr Rabin said.

El Masjidiya, Lebanon: Israeli troops yesterday attacked Iranian-backed guerrillas, thrusting north for the first time in years from the border zone that they occupy in southern Lebanon. The advance followed overnight clashes that left four people wounded. (AP)



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THE POWER ISSUE: SHARE IN IT





## Hillary Clinton eats large slice of humble pie and lets the press eat cake

BY MARTIN FLETCHER

AMERICA was treated yesterday to the latest and most startling of the many images that Hillary Clinton has adopted over the past three years.

The First Lady, renowned for her unshakable self-confidence and moral certitude, portrays herself as humble, contrite and a little bewildered. She confessed that on occasion she had been "naïve and dumb", and she actually sought the advice of journalists on how she might be seen more sym-

thetically. Admittedly, these were not the hard-core political reporters she so despises. They were a handpicked group of women writers on social affairs, whom she invited to the White House for a lunch of shrimp and tomato soup and carried chicken. She even produced a cake to mark the imminent retirement of one of the reporters.

Coincidentally or otherwise, the event took place just days after Newt Gingrich's mother had let slip that the new House Speaker considered the President's wife a

bitch, a comment that has spawned a new cottage industry in badges proclaiming "she is".

Mrs Clinton confessed she was shocked at how she was portrayed in the media. "Sometimes I read stories or hear things about me and I go, 'Ugh! I wouldn't like her either', she said. "It's so unlike what I think I am, or what my friends believe I am." She complained that she "didn't get this whole image-creation thing... I have let other people define me."

Of her failed efforts to reform America's medical system, Mrs

Clinton said: "I regret very much that the efforts on healthcare were badly misunderstood, taken out of context, and used politically against the Administration. I take responsibility for that, and I am very sorry for that."

Her plan, which smacked of big government, was an important factor in the Democratic Party's rout in the congressional elections last November.

Mrs Clinton said that not only she, but the Administration as a whole, had failed to communicate their message properly. Her hus-

band, she added, had achieved much, but "it's pretty obvious this Administration has trouble getting its message out... too many things were done at one time without benefit of a consistent and coherent explanation."

She admitted that she would have "done a lot of things differently" if she could start her time in the White House again. "There is no way in the world to figure out what it's like to live here. There is so much about it no one ever tells you. There are little things you never would have thought of. You have

to start thinking about Christmas in April," Mr Clinton, in the meantime, launched his drive to rebuild his presidency with a trip yesterday to Illinois, in the American heartland, to tout his new "Middle-Class Bill of Rights", consisting primarily of tax cuts. Like so many of his Oval Office predecessors who have run into trouble, he now plans to spend more time away from Washington talking to "real people", and will visit the key electoral states of Ohio and California in the next few days. Mr Clinton is also close to

announcing his appointment of Christopher Dodd, a Connecticut senator, to lead the national Democratic Party out of the doldrums before the presidential elections due next year.

Mr Dodd, who is both articulate and aggressive, would be the party's general chairman, but because he is a sitting senator another party stalwart, Don Fowler, of South Carolina, would be day-to-day chairman. David Wilhelm, the last chairman, left after the Democrats' defeat in November.

## Gingrich sacks his chronicler over 'Nazi' statements

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

NEWT GINGRICH, the House Speaker, has been forced to dismiss the ardent political supporter he had just appointed as official House historian because she once criticised a school history course for not giving "the Nazi point of view".

A spokesman for Mr Gingrich said the Speaker had been unaware of Christina Jeffrey's past, but dismissed her from her new \$85,000-a-year (\$54,800) post within three hours of finding out. Professor Jeffrey called the charges against her "outrageous".

Professor Jeffrey's appointment had aroused opposition even before her criticism of the history course became known. She was an assistant professor at the Georgia university where Mr Gingrich once talked, had supported his conservative political agenda, and was to have replaced a respected House historian who Mr Gingrich had summarily dismissed after 12 years' service. As part of the deal Dr Jeffrey's husband, Robert, a political science pro-

fessor, was to have been an unpaid "chronicler" of Mr Gingrich's term as Speaker, leading one commentator to suggest that "megomania has driven [Mr Gingrich] to hire a Boswell before he has proved he is Dr Johnson".

Dr Jeffrey might have survived the outcry had someone not disinterred her 1986 criticism of a junior high school course on the Holocaust. She told the education department, for whom she was acting as a consultant, that the course "gives no evidence of balance or objectivity. The Nazi point of view, however unpopular, is still a point of view and is not presented, nor is that of the Ku Klux Klan."

She continued: "It is a paradoxical and strange aspect of this programme [that] the methods used to change the thinking of students is the same that Hitler and Goebbels used to propagandise the German people." The then-Deputy Assistant Education Secretary called her comments "appalling" and she was dismissed. Mr Gingrich has

proved almost as accident-prone since his election as President Clinton did in the weeks after his 1992 election triumph. He has had to renounce a \$4.5 million book contract, drop his demand for the reintroduction of school prayer, and backpedalled on charges that the Clintons were "enemies of the people".

His appointment and dismissal of Dr Jeffrey echoed Mr Clinton's early nomination and subsequent abandonment of both Lani Guinier and Zoe Baird from the post of Attorney-General, but with one key difference. In this case, as with his other faux pas, Mr Gingrich has acted quickly and decisively to limit the damage whereas Mr Clinton lets his early controversies fester and grow. "Newt did the right thing quickly," said Barney Frank, a Democratic congressman.

It was altogether a bad 24 hours for Mr Gingrich. In addition to the historianian row, he was obliged to back away from a controversial Republican plan to deny welfare benefits to legal immigrants who are not full citizens, and to delay for a week a vote on a constitutional amendment mandating a balanced federal budget. Mr Gingrich also launched another angry attack on the mainstream media, declaring he would boycott "nit-picking" Sunday television talk shows for a month.

Mr Gingrich remains America's pre-eminent politician, however. Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, is to meet him on Tuesday to lobby against lifting the UN arms embargo against Bosnia's Muslims.

Tomichi Murayama, Japan's Prime Minister, yesterday arrived in Washington with his official sounding more excited about his meeting with Mr Gingrich than his date with the President.



Sound and fury on Capitol Hill — Clinton versus Gingrich, as seen by Kal in the Baltimore Sun



Firemen of a search and rescue team evacuating a family to safety in Monte Rio, California. Days of heavy rain have brought northern California's worst flooding in more than a decade (Giles Whitell wire). Many of the state's most famous vineyards have been inundated, and entire towns along one river valley have been submerged, bringing warnings of "a full-blown natural disaster".

Pete Wilson, the state Governor, has declared a state of emergency in three counties north of San Francisco, allowing the National Guard to use

## Northern California hit by worst floods in a decade

military lorries and helicopters to rescue hundreds of stranded homeowners before two new storms brewing off the Pacific coast hit the already sodden region. The Los Angeles area has also been drenched by a week of almost continuous rain, bringing mudslides to areas decimated by 1993's wildfires and putting nearby

mountains in imminent danger of avalanches. Richard Riordan, the city's Mayor, declared a local state of emergency before new rains on Monday night forced the deployment of "mechanical" diggers to clear Malibu's steep river beds as flash floods threatened to sweep away homes on their banks. Two deaths

have so far been attributed to the seven-day deluge. Both deaths were the result of trees falling on to lorry cabs. High winds and loosened soil have also felled giant redwood trees in protected groves in Sonoma and Humboldt counties.

Thousands of people have been driven from their homes along the Russian river, 60 miles north of San Francisco, taking refuge in 14 emergency shelters. Red Cross shelters in Guerneville, a gay holiday resort, the river was nearly 50ft above normal levels yesterday.

## Reagan's health fading, says author

BY JAMES BONE

RONALD REAGAN's health has deteriorated dramatically since he announced two months ago that he had Alzheimer's disease, according to his biographer.

Edmund Morris, who won a Pulitzer Prize for his life of Theodore Roosevelt and has been working on his Reagan biography since 1985, said in an article in *The New Yorker*:

"Mr Reagan's decline has been precipitous. About six months ago, he stopped recognising me. Now I no longer recognise him."

Mr Reagan, 83, wrote an open letter on November 5 disclosing that he had been diagnosed as suffering from the memory-destroying Alzheimer's disease. He was last seen in public on November

22, when he and his wife, Nancy, posed in front of a Christmas exhibit at the Reagan Presidential Library in Simi Valley, California.

Mr Morris, describing a recent visit to Mr Reagan's office in Los Angeles, said that the former president was "as lucid as ever". But he described him as "distracted" and

"strange" and said: "I noticed something unimaginable before a patch of silvery stubble on his chin... for all the willingness with which he showed me his framed photographs, his jelly-bean jar, and his view of the Hollywood hills, I did not feel his presence beside me, only his absence."

Mr Reagan's family did not comment on the report.

## Harare doctor guilty

Harare A white anaesthetist at the centre of a race uproar over accusations that he experimented on blacks was yesterday found guilty of killing two patients. Richard Gladwell McGown, 58, caused the deaths of two patients by injecting them with high doses of morphine and through negligent post-operative care. He was acquitted on three other counts of culpable homicide. Dr McGown, who trained in Scotland, will be sentenced today. (Reuters)

## Burial plan

Stockholm: Relatives of those who died when the ferry Estonia sank in the Baltic Sea last September plan to raise money to bring to the surface for burial the estimated 800 bodies still on board. (AP)

## Killed by cold

Delhi: At least 62 people have died during a four-week cold spell in northern India. The Press Trust of India said conditions included biting winds, snowstorms and avalanches. (AFP)

## Lovers' suicide

Paris: Two lovers, a girl of 13 and a man of 24, committed suicide by lying in the path of the Orient Express in eastern France because their parents disapproved of their relationship. (Reuters)

## Second quake

Peking: Another earthquake, measuring 6.2 on the Richter scale, struck coastal regions of southern China where a quake injured 402 people on December 31. No casualties were reported. (Reuters)

## Red Prince dies

Hanoi: Prince Souphanouvong, the former President of Laos, who was nicknamed 'The Red Prince', has died of a heart attack at his home after a long illness. He was 86. (AFP) *Obituary, page 2*

## String ensemble

Paris: About 60 violins, some hundreds of years old, worth thousands of pounds, have been reunited with their owners after a four-day show of stolen instruments. (Reuters)

## Writer sued over 'stolen' princess story

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

A LONDON resident has filed a suit here against a bestselling author for allegedly stealing her life story. Friederike Assani, an Austrian who married a member of one of Kuwait's leading families, is seeking hundreds of thousands of dollars in damages for plagiarism from Jean Sasson, an American

author of two popular books about the tormented marriage of a Saudi princess.

Mrs Assani claims that Ms Sasson's books — *Princess: A True Story of Life Behind the Veil* and its sequel, *Princess: Sultan's Daughters* — were based on her own unpublished autobiography, *Cinderella in Arabia*, which was

handled by the same agent. "I am seeking justice," Mrs Assani, who has lived in London for 13 years, said yesterday through her lawyer. Mrs Assani alleges that Ms Sasson obtained her manuscript from Peter Miller, the New York literary agent they shared, four years before the first *Princess* book was published.

Ms Sasson's books purport to be the true life story of a Saudi princess who she says she met at a party in Riyadh.

## Swedish budget cuts strike at heart of the welfare state

FROM NICHOLAS GEORGE IN STOCKHOLM

SWEDEN yesterday announced huge cuts in most areas of government spending, marking an end to the expansion of the welfare state that has characterised post-war politics.

The savings in child and unemployment benefits, pensions and housing allowances go to the heart of a system of state provision that has been developed by successive Social Democratic governments.

However, the social net, which pays the unemployed 80 per cent of their previous income and offers 12 months' paternity leave on between 80 and 90 per cent of salary, has become too expensive to maintain.

Sweden's worst recession since the 1930s.

In 1994 the Government's budget deficit reached 13 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP), and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) issued a warning that total public debt would reach 123 per cent of GDP by 2000.

Delivering his first budget, which he acknowledged was tough, Göran Persson, the Social Democratic Finance Minister, said: "We cannot pull ourselves out of the economic morass without it being felt by every private household."

Welfare cuts will be backed up by reductions in spending on defence, transport, foreign aid and the royal household, and charges for health services and medicines will rise. The Government has already brought in a tranche of spending cuts and tax increases and Mr Persson claims the combined effect will be to strengthen state finances by £10 billion by 1998. He said further cuts may be necessary.

Although the Social Democrats were elected last Septem-

ber after promising a tough austerity package, the scale of yesterday's budget has upset some traditional trade union and party supporters. Union members say there are insufficient measures to deal with unemployment, which accounts for 13 per cent of the potential workforce.

Other critics said the package would damage the country's delicate economic recovery and the minority Government may struggle to get its full budget proposals through parliament. The Left Party, its traditional ally, has said it will oppose cuts in child benefit and overseas aid.

Social Democratic leaders believe, however, that they can push the budget through with some horse-trading, and that they will be able to rely on the export-led recovery now under way to avoid further cuts.

The financial markets remain sceptical of Sweden's policies. Last week Moody's, the international credit rating agency, downgraded Sweden's sovereign debt rating, which pushed Swedish interest rates up and increased the cost of servicing the state debt.

## Cyprus asks Britain to lobby Turks

PRESIDENT CLERIDES of Cyprus yesterday urged John Major to put greater pressure on Turkey to use its influence to break the deadlock on the divided island (Michael Binyon, Diplomatic Editor, writes).

During a brief visit to Britain, Mr Clerides said that face-to-face talks with Rauf Denktaş, the Turkish Cypriot leader, had reached a dead end. He called instead for renewed talks through the office of the United Nations Secretary-General.

Mr Clerides wants Britain and the United States, which recently appointed a presidential adviser on Cyprus, to warn Turkey that Greece would continue to veto closer Turkish relations with the European Union if there were no progress on Cyprus.

He also discussed with Mr Major and later at a lunch with Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, the Cypriot application for membership of the European Union. Both made it clear to the Cypriot leader that talks on any application could not begin until after the 1996 inter-governmental conference.

SPAIN'S opposition parties yesterday dismissed as unconvincing and ineffectual denials by Felipe González, the Prime Minister, of official involvement in a "dirty war" against Basque separatist guerrillas in the 1980s.

The centre-right Popular Party (PP) demanded that Señor González call general elections by May at the latest to end what has become the most serious and far-reaching political crisis in Spain's 12 years of Socialist rule.

Charges of government involvement in the activities of the Anti-terrorist Liberation Group (GAL), which killed 27 alleged Basque separatists from 1983 to 1987 in southwest France, have seriously shaken Señor González's minority Government and sent financial markets into a nosedive.

Señor González failed to restore his credibility in a television interview on Monday night. The newspaper *El País*, which normally supports the Socialists, described the grilling of the party leader at the hands of a "skilled interviewer as perhaps the most dramatic half hour during his 12 years as premier."

Señor González has been thrown on to the defensive by the continued revelations of two former police officers, the only two Spaniards convicted for their role in organising GAL. The allegations made by José Amedo and Miguel Domínguez to Baltasar Garçon, an investigating judge, forced him to reopen the GAL case file.

Four former top interior Ministry officials have now been remanded in custody. The former Bilbao police officers, who have also sold their

story to the anti-Government *El Mundo*, say the Government organised GAL. "Neither did I tolerate [GAL], nor did I consent to it and certainly did not organise it," Señor González claimed in the interview. "I am a career democrat, convinced that only democratic instruments can be used in the fight against crime."

A survey conducted by *El Mundo* showed that 64.3 per cent of Spaniards believe the Government was implicated in GAL's activities. The detailed evidence presented by Señor Amedo and Señor Domínguez is overwhelming. It includes the numbers of Swiss bank accounts into

which their wives deposited \$500,000 each, given to them by Interior Ministry officials.

José María Aznar, the PP leader, is demanding an early general election. But Señor González says that he will stay put as long as his minority Government is supported by the Catalan nationalists, Jordi Pujol, the Catalan leader, yesterday pledged his continued support.

Señor González's crisis is of his own making. During 12 years in power he has seldom appeared in the Cortes, preferring to play the statesman juggling between Europe and Latin America. His biggest mistake was to completely lose control of the Interior Ministry with its billion-pound slush funds to combat Basque separatists and organised crime.

A ministry source says corruption set in when GAL was established. After that senior police officers took huge bribes from suppliers to the multi-million pound state security operation for the Olympic Games and the Expo would fair in 1992.

Last April Luis Roldán, 51, who for eight years was head of the Civil Guard, disappeared with about \$8 million. He said it was common practice to inflate the salaries of top officials, responsible for the fight against crime, with cheques made out on the slush fund account.

Relatedly, Señor González appointed Juan Alberto Belloch, a highly respected judge, as Minister of both Justice and the Interior. Señor Belloch has removed many top policemen and civil guards as one his ministries investigates the other.



González facing his television grilling

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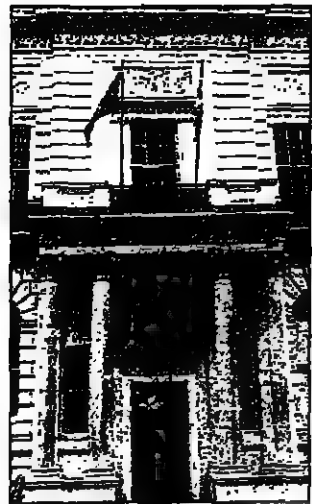
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# Let the women join



David Butler explains why he is leaving the Oxford and Cambridge Club

An open letter to the chairman of the United Oxford and Cambridge Universities Club, 71 Pall Mall, London SW1.

Dear Chairman,

I am, most regretfully, sending you my resignation after 43 years' membership of the club. One does not lightly give up association with so comfortable and civilised an institution. But the action — or the inaction — of the club committee has made it impossible for a self-respecting Oxford don to remain involved with a body that remains so flagrantly impervious to the will of its members or to the norms of contemporary British society. The club's origins in 1817 were as a gathering place for matriculated members of the two old universities (my great-grandfather, George Butler, was one of the founders). All members of the universities were then male. Today more than 40 per cent of matriculating undergraduates are female, and every Oxford and Cambridge college admits women.

Members of the club, myself included, were slow to recognise this fact. But when, a few years ago, we began to argue that an Oxford and Cambridge Club should treat all members of the university equally, a group of members, with the aid of well-organised proxies, pushed through a resolution that any



David Butler, resigning after 43 years because it is "too embarrassing for this non-militant male to remain a member"

change in the club's rules should have the explicit support of a majority of the club's total membership, and that five years must elapse before any proposal was brought up for a second time.

Some of us pointed out that, in a postal vote of a far-flung community, a 50 per cent turnout was almost inconceivable. We were unduly pessimistic. When the issue of admitting women on equal terms with men came to a vote, 62 per cent of ballots were returned. The vote divided 76 per cent to 24 per cent in favour of change. But, as proportions of the total membership, 49 per cent favoured having women as full members to 14 per cent against. Out of 3,000 and more members (the 500 lady associates pay only a quarter of the men's subscription and, of course, have no vote), the result was only 70 votes short of the high hurdle that had been set.

That vote was announced in September 1993. One might have thought that, faced with so

clear an expression of opinion, the club committee would have shown some immediate understanding. But nothing had happened by June 1994 when the club had its annual meeting. Worse, despite pressure then, nothing had happened by the end of the year. There is nothing unconstitutional in the committee's inaction — only a remarkable lack of political comprehension or generosity.

The modest proposal that lady guests and lady associate members might be allowed to walk up our grand staircase and also to enter the library has lain firmly on the table.

A private club is immune from the provisions of the Sex Discrimination Act. But a club composed entirely of people from two such ancient and humane institutions as Oxford and Cambridge is surely in a special position. The club uses the universities' names and their emblems. As Lord Jenkins, Oxford's Chancellor, has pointed

out, the Oxford University Press would have a very difficult time if it was merely called the Jericho Press in honour of its little quarter of the city.

Some Oxbridge college heads have already left the club in quiet protest at its behaviour. Others are seriously considering a collective and public resignation.

Some friends have said that I should stay on to re-light the issue when it becomes constitutionally possible three years hence. But that is a long time to wait and to tolerate a regime that in 16 months has made no reaction to so overwhelming an expression of the members' sentiments.

Indeed, the modest compromise that the committee could speedily have made — allowing to ladies somewhat greater access to the facilities — would hardly meet the central grievance. An eminent professor from Princeton (which went mixed after Oxbridge) finds that she cannot exercise full reciprocal membership. An Oxford

head of house (not my wife) feels forced to resign her associate membership on being denied access to the library and the main stairs. A non-militant Cambridge professor explains that she cannot accept a lunch invitation to so sexist an institution. It becomes too embarrassing for this non-militant male to remain a member.

It is all so silly. Almost 40 years ago I became the first person to be dean of a mixed college in Oxford or Cambridge. Today my wife is the first woman to be head of a formerly all-male college. The problems associated with going mixed are negligible. The advantages are great. In 1995 it no longer seems civilised to remain a member of an institution in which the responsible general committee seems determined to remain every existing barrier to the equal treatment of women.

Yours sincerely,  
DAVID BUTLER  
The author has been a Fellow of Nuffield College, Oxford, since 1951

## The quiet man trapped in a royal scandal

### Even a pawn has his honour

Time to take stock of the latest move in the agonising and apparently interminably royal chess game that has been monopolising this country's attention for the past ten years at least. Observing the dignity with which Brigadier Parker Bowles yesterday quit the board, I resolved never again to use the word "pawn" as a term of disparagement.

On the face of it, Andrew Parker Bowles was brought up to be nobody's pawn. On the contrary, he was trained to be a leader of men and displayed, according to those who served under him in Londonderry during the worst of the Troubles, all the desirable soldierly virtues. That these include unflinching devotion to Queen and country goes without saying. But who could have guessed when he took his place as a pageboy at the Queen's coronation, what appalling trials would later be devised for him?

Being the husband of a royal mistress must have been humiliating enough in the past, but did any of them ever have to suffer any calamity so excruciating as publication of the "Camillagate" tapes? Did they have to grit their teeth and protest their loyalty to the man who had cuckolded them while watching him regale the multitude, both on television and in pages of earnest and self-justifying prose, with a blow-by-blow history of the affair?

No, they didn't. Camilla Parker Bowles's great-grandfather, Mr Koppel, is a man of whom I know nothing, but I'm pretty sure he was able to step out of his house in the mornings without having men with microphones leap out of the bushes to inquire how he felt about his wife's affair with the future Edward VII.

So how does a traditional sort of fellow cope with these modern tribulations? Why, in a traditional sort of way. He follows the old rules and keeps his back straight and his mouth buttoned. (Brigadier Parker Bowles's back, incidentally, has the benefit of a bit of extra stiffening by a pair of metal rods inserted after a fall while riding in a race at Ascot.)

His wife, a similarly traditional sort of fellow, follows suit and earns respect by becoming, as a reader pointed out in a letter yesterday, one of a pathetically small group of confidants (among whom the Queen's former Private Secretary, Lord Charteris, can no longer be numbered) to whom royalty can unburden without having to worry about the confidence being carried steaming to the press. Such ethical discretion has enabled the brigadier to lead a humiliated

but at least reasonably independent and not at all monastic life in London, while maintaining a united family front in Wiltshire, and ultimately to manage what looks — if such a thing is not a contradiction in terms — like an exemplary divorce. Hardly an occasion for rejoicing, but at least not a bloody mess like the rest of that on-going chess game.

The Prince and Princess of Wales were both brought up in the same tradition but — being both, in their different ways, devoted to the notion that the best way to preserve the monarchy is to modernise it — they have contrived to produce a succession of almost comically disastrous revisions to the rules for coping with this situation.

By going to Australia for Christmas and the New Year I managed to escape the cold, but not that infernal board game: they are playing it their own way down there, as they inch towards becoming a republic. At this stage, even the republicans openly say how sorry they are for the monarchists: the monarchists themselves are in despair as they watch the Waleses losing the game for them. I lost count of the number of traditionally-inclined folk who told me they had recently become republicans by default "because of the way your note the distancing pronoun damned Royal Family have forgotten what's expected of them".

The other sort of Australian republican, the committed sort, will tell you that what's wrong with Britain is that it is doomed to live in while the monarchy persists. "Look at you all," they say, "dredging about in your history for precedents all the time instead of looking ahead."

In respect of precedent, at any rate, they have a point. Edward VII was a tremendously popular king and a tremendously unfaithful husband, while poor old Charles I was faithful and serious, yet lost his head. Nell Gwyn appears to have been a cross between Barbara Windsor and the Duchess of York, and yet everybody loved her, while Camilla Parker Bowles must now be accounted the most suitable consort for the Prince of Wales, but 71 per cent of Sun readers say they would be scandalised if he married her. But then, a resounding 84 per cent of them were saying yesterday that Prince Charles should not become king at all, which leaves us all staring at a very foggy future indeed.

The Parker Bowles's marriage may have been the only victim of this unhelpful game.



MARGOT NORMAN

## Throw restraint to the wind, and don the white stiletos. Vulgarity is in

### Brassiness enters a golden age

BEING vulgar is considered a sin — at least by Lord Charteris, who was not exactly complimenting the Duchess of York when he called her a vulgarian. "She is vulgar, vulgar, vulgar and that is that," the Queen's former private secretary told *The Spectator* last week. Polonius felt the same way 400 years earlier when he told his son in *Hamlet*: "Be thou familiar but by no means vulgar."

The definition of a vulgarian varies. Inferior, inelegant, graceless, plebeian, cheap, crude, tasteless, irreverent, brassy, grasping, foul-mouthed, slobby, ignorant, rude, uncouth and excessive have all been used.

Which means Lord Charteris has probably got it right in one sense over Fergie. She came to fame throwing bread rolls and refined her vulgarity prodding racegoers in the rear with an umbrella and bellowing in *It's A Royal Knockout*.

But, instead of feigning indifference when cornered on the ski slopes last week about the insult, Fergie should have taken his words as a compliment. Only later, when Lord Charteris tried to make amends by calling her "a nice, sweet girl", should she have taken offence.

Vulgarians are born, not bred. You either are one or you aren't, and those who are lucky enough to be born vulgarians should use it because being vulgar is in.

The word derives from the Latin "vulgus", meaning the common people. But being vulgar is not necessarily a matter of class, as the Romans knew. Seneca, the Emperor Nero's writer-in-residence, got it right when he said: "You can find the vulgar in all ranks of society and they are not always distinguished by the dress they wear."

Vulgar people have more fun — as Elizabeth Hurley could tell you — and those who are restrained don't. That black safety pin of a dress by Versace that Miss Hurley wore may have been vulgar, but it relaunched her career in a way that no mushroom-coloured trouser suit by Armani could have.

Most people would prefer to have a lavish dinner with a slobbering Henry VIII than join his po-faced daughter Queen Mary for a hen night. Falstaff had a better time than Hamlet.

Joanna Lumley only became obscenely famous and got her OBE when she behaved really, really grossly as Patsy in *Absolutely Fabulous*, discovering crotchless knickers, Bollinger and blood-red talons.

It may be vulgar to marry five times, but it is probably a lot more entertaining to be Elizabeth Taylor than the Princess of Wales eating Christmas lunch on her own. The vulgar never lie back on their own and think of England: they get on with it. Preferably in their Jacuzzi.

It is the same in politics and business at the moment. William Waldegrave, the Agriculture Minister, may have made it into All Souls and the Cabinet, but he always looks miserable, whereas Edwina Currie, a vulgarian, looks as though she is having a far better time writing about the sexual antics of her fellow MPs. Lord Archer is less fragrant and less couth than his wife, but he smiles more.

MARK Thatcher, worried that he might not be vulgar enough on his own, married a Texan heiress. All Americans, except those who came over on the Mayflower and the designer Ralph Lauren, revel in being

vulgar, taking stretch limos and munching double-choc chip brownies in the back. They aren't afraid of leaping the world know that they are having a good time.

*Helio!* magazine, *Blind Date*, the National Lottery and *Absolutely Fabulous* are all temples to vulgarity. Fans of these successful, tastefully successful, they need to be accompanied by a

Babyeum with a cherry and paper umbrella to be best appreciated. Blackpool now has more visitors than the whole of Portugal by being brash and brassy. The list is endless.

Being vulgar is definitely in. Being a prin prude is not. The fashion world stopped being vulgar at the beginning of the 1990s and it was a disaster. Worthy grunge took over. Greasy hair and dirty nails were boring. Now, glamour — as the fashion world prefers to call it — new vulgar excesses — is back, and designers can have more fun. Red lipstick, cleavages, peroxide big hair, shoulder-pads and leopard-skin prints are everywhere.

The designers Vivienne Westwood and Gianni Versace have always understood excessive tackiness and realised that, taken to extremes, vulgar becomes kitsch.

which becomes deeply hip. "Being vulgar is great and is very cool now," says Lisa Armstrong, the associate editor of *Vogue* magazine. "It must be done with knowledge and a strong sense of humour and irony. There is nothing better than wearing sequins at 10am and dying one's hair red. Everyone is going glitz in the clubs."

Ms Armstrong advises potential vulgarians to go all out to achieve the best effect, although she says that it does take guts. "The comedienne Sandra Bernhard can be wonderfully vulgar in skin-tight PVC trousers, purple boas and vast red lips, but it just makes her look more amazing. A lot of well-brought-up girls can look great in really tarty outfits with safety pins through their noses. Everyone knows it's just a joke except perhaps their grandmothers," she says. "It is much better to be vulgar than nice."

JOHN Mortimer sums it up. "Anything without a hint of vulgarity isn't very interesting. A lot of good writers and most good comics are vulgar. Many good politicians, such as Dennis Skinner, are vulgar. All vulgarity means is being in tune with popular tastes. So if you have no vulgarity you are probably out of touch. Chaucer was vulgar, as was Byron and Winston Churchill. I have a strong streak of vulgarity and I am glad."

In fact, Fergie should have told Lord Charteris that the vulgarian isn't worth knowing, and that from now on she will go a little further. Wear that Vivienne Westwood corset with those fishnets, collect those miniature porcelain characters from the Sunday magazines, drive a tangerine Ferrari and drop any pretence to sophistication.

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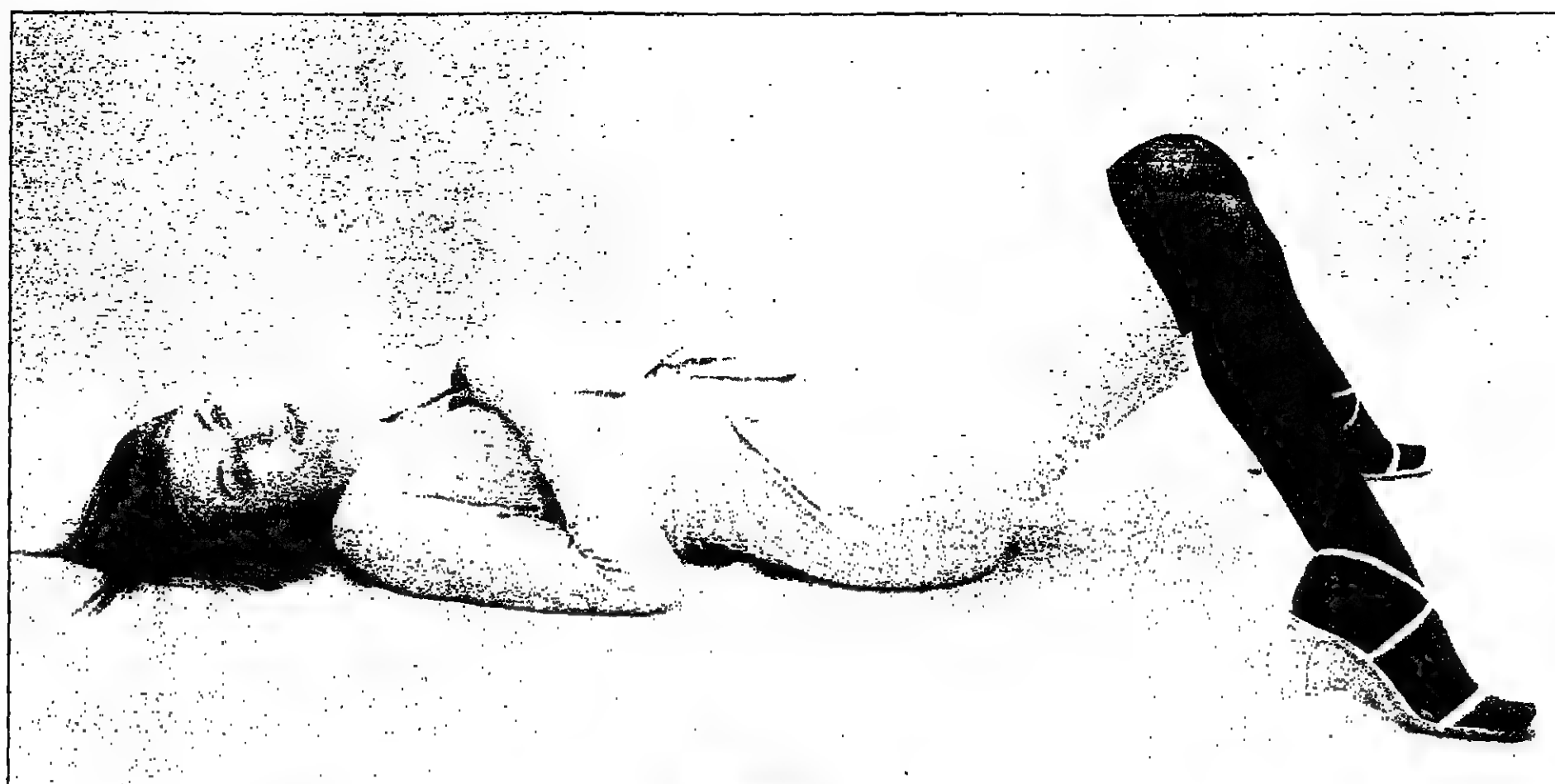
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Away from the spotlight, shapely and sleek styles are emphasising the feminine 'feel-good' factor



Cream wool/cashmere mix mini-dress, to order, Edina Ronay, 141 Kings Road, SW3 (inquiries 071-352 1085); black opaque tights, £3.99, Aristoc, major department stores nationwide; white strappy heels, £135, Russell & Bromley, 24-25 New Bond Street, W1 and selected branches



ABOVE: beige tie front dress, £995, Shi Cashmere, 30 Lowndes Street, SW1 (inquiries 071-335 3829); tights, as far left, cream suede strappy shoes, £115, Russell & Bromley, as before  
LEFT: pale beige lambswool cardigan, £33, pale beige cashmere skirt, £162, Pringle, 93 New Bond Street, W1 (inquiries 0450 360259)

Photographs by RICHARD LOHR  
Hair and make-up by Mary-Jane Frost

## Softly, softly, seduction

WITH the headlines full of hard-edged glamour, one might be forgiven for thinking that at this moment fashion has little else to offer. However, far removed from the glare of the camera's flash, a softer, seductive statement is turning heads.

Knitwear is no longer seen as fuddy-duddy. Forget Grandma's Christmas gifts, this season the catwalks are full of tempting two-ply triumphs. The latest look is shapely and sleek, pale and creamy, echoing fashion's refocused vision of femininity.

Nothing is more attractive than cashmere, and though pricey, it is probably the best investment anyone can make. The designer Shayesteh Nazemi specialises in cashmere and is one of the people responsible for giving knitwear a fashion accent. Her designs, for Shi Cashmere, are seasonless, but this season



Fashion  
by  
IAIN R. WEBB

favourites include knee-length wrap dresses and tunic-style mini-dresses. Balantyne, N. Peal, Pringle, and Johnstons of Elgin are famous for their cashmere, and have all added more fashion-aware styling to their recent collections.

Cashmere may be everyone's first choice, but this season there are plenty of irresistible and less expensive options — mohair, angora and alpaca. Lambswool, or cashmere-wool mixes, are equally strong.

Another designer who has been at the forefront of the knitwear revolution is Joseph. Over the years, he has developed his Tricot range, and he unveiled his latest collection last October. Again, knitted wrap dresses were popular, as were little knitted halterneck and slip dresses in fine, gauzy yarns. Joseph also showed knitted separates — polo shirts and clingy skirts.

This spring, the high street is full of fabulous new-look knit separates. Button-through tops, twinsets and cropped sweaters in neutral creamy tones and pastel shades can be found at Top Shop, Jigsaw, French Connection and Oasis.

These new knitted separates are all part of the less aggressive "secretary smart" look, for which a clean line and spare silhouette are all-important. Accessorised with opaque-black tights and high, strappy heels, even the tiniest knitted T-shirt dress assumes an air of simple elegance.

Whatever politicians may promise, it is fashion that is providing the "feel-good" factor — right here and now.



### HOTLINE

● FANS of Monsoon will be pleased to find a new beauty range on the shelves. The Monsoon fragrance has been developed to complement the label's vaguely ethnic, individual style of dressing. Featuring a combination of lily, gardenia, ylang, sandalwood and amber, the range — which includes an eau de toilette, bath and shower gel, and body lotion — has an exotic, natural-based fragrance. Available from Harrods, department stores, pharmacies and Monsoon fashion stores. Prices start at £17.95.

● THE occasional forays into the world of wedding dresses by Jasper Conran have been very successful. His most recent creation was for Lady Sarah Chatto (née Armstrong-Jones), well known for her sense of understated style. Now those less able to afford a Conran one-off can choose a style from his new collection of wedding dresses. The first unveiling will be at *You and Your Wedding Live '95* on Saturday when the Conran gowns will be paraded on the catwalk alongside dresses by Tomasz Starzewski, Caroline Charles, Elizabeth Emanuel, and Dolce & Gabbana. The range, which starts at £600, is also available from Liberty, Regent Street, W1, and Caroline Castiglioni, 54 Chiltern Street, W1, and 136 High Street, Esher, Surrey. For tickets to the show, at Westminster Central Hall, phone 071-437 0790.

RACHEL COLLINS

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# Divorce that may rock the monarchy

The Prince of Wales faces an agonising, impossible quandary

On November 25, 1936, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Neville Chamberlain, made an entry in his diary: "I learned... that the k had now swung round and had taken up the position that he would contract a morganatic marriage to be legalised by act of parliament... It was agreed (at a meeting of ministers) that we must act cautiously, and find out attitude of Opposition and of Dominions before committing ourselves... I have no doubt that if it were possible to arrange the morganatic marriage, this would only be the prelude to the further step of making Mrs S Queen with full rights." Nearly 60 years later, the announcement of Camilla and Andrew Parker Bowles's decision to end their marriage is again raising the question whether a particular divorced woman might become Queen of England, and the question of the intentions of the Prince. It seems to be generally assumed, as by Lord Charteris, that the Prince of Wales intends shortly to obtain a divorce himself. Camilla Parker Bowles will now be divorced before he is. She is regarded, again by Lord Charteris, as "the love of his life". If both of them were in private life, nothing would be more natural than for them to be married after the second divorce had come through. Yet a royal marriage is an act of state: it involves the Government, the Opposition, the Commonwealth, the Church of England and public opinion; it involves the Queen. As with his great uncle, the Prince's intentions are themselves impossible for outsiders to know. Perhaps he does not know himself. He could decide to remain married to the Princess of Wales, though the momentum of events seems to be making that impossible.

The Prince could resume seeing Mrs Parker Bowles, but leave it at that, and eventually ascend the throne as an unmarried king, though with a special friendship. He could decide to marry and retire into private life, as did King Edward VIII. He could marry, damn the torpedoes, and seek to make Mrs Parker Bowles his queen. Human nature being what it is, he could eventually marry somebody quite different, whom he may not even yet have met. The question which will not easily go away, now that the Parker Bowles have announced their intention to divorce, is whether Prince Charles will divorce the Princess of Wales, marry Camilla, and make her queen — the intention Neville Chamberlain suspected in 1936.

Such a decision would put the Queen herself in a difficult position. The Royal Marriage Act of 1772 could not be applied satisfactorily in practice. That Act would purport to invalidate any proposed marriage that the Prince of Wales might make without the Queen's consent, but it is not conceivable that the Queen would take her son to court or seek an

injunction to restrain him. Nor, if she did so, would she succeed. The Act covers all the descendants of King George II, but exempts "the issue of princesses who have married, or may hereafter marry into foreign families". The Duke of Edinburgh is descended from such a Princess, while Queen Victoria was herself such a Princess. Prince Charles is therefore exempt from the Royal Marriage Act by at least two of his lines of descent. Yet he could hardly make a controversial marriage without his Sovereign's consent.

The greatest difficulty would lie in public opinion, not only in Britain but in those Commonwealth countries which have remained monarchies. Certainly the idea of a morganatic marriage can be discarded, now as in 1936. It would have to be approved by too many parliaments, and could not be expected to carry in a single one of them. Some Commonwealth countries are on the verge of becoming republics; that may happen in any case, but a controversial marriage would be a gift to the republicans of the Commonwealth.

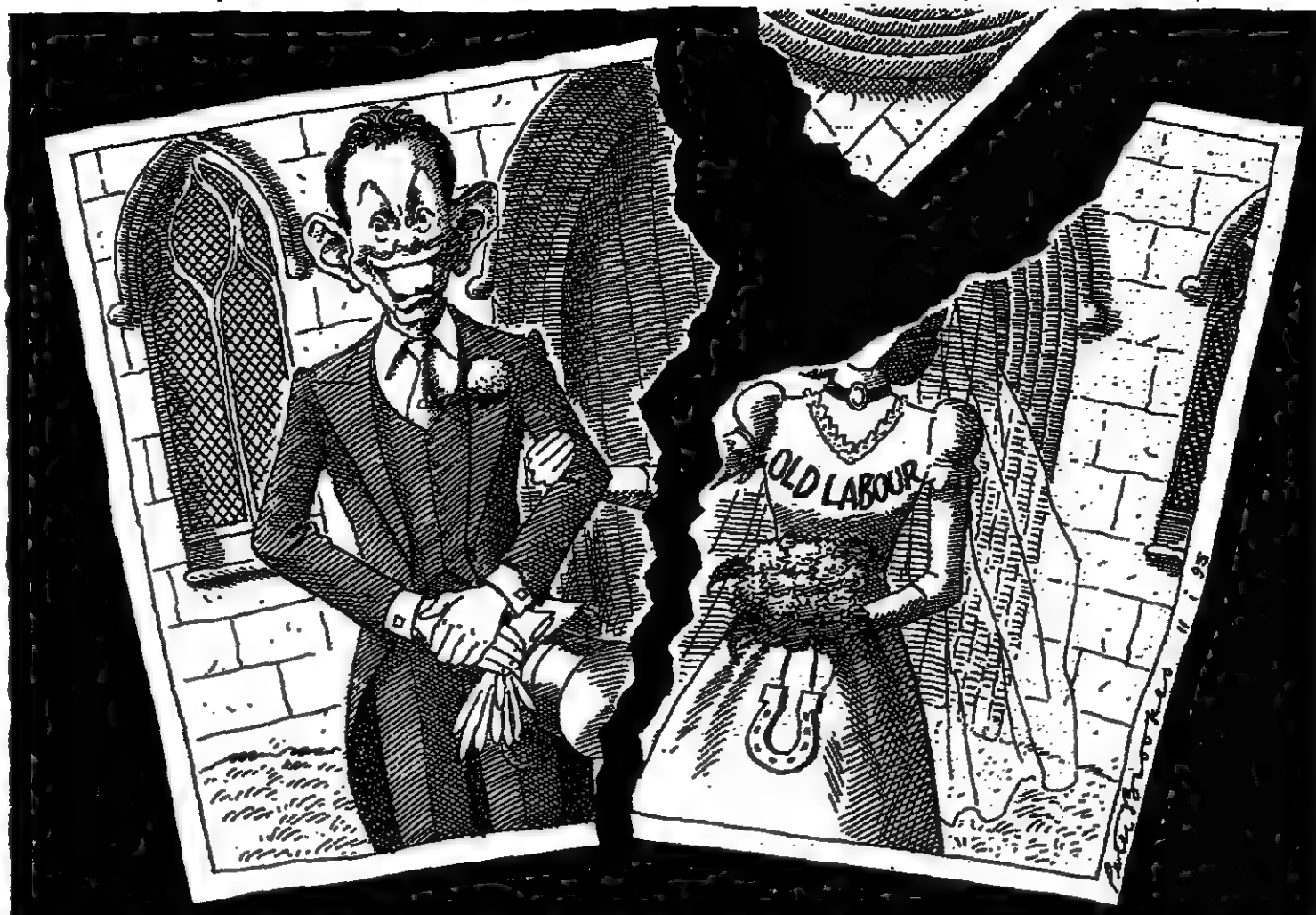
In Britain, we can see that there is a paradox in this. Almost all the republicans in this country are found among liberal-minded people, the sort of people who believe

William Rees-Mogg

that the monarchy is an obsolete relic of a feudal age. These are also the people who are most tolerant of divorce: some of them think that marriage is also an obsolete relic of a feudal age. The people who would find Camilla Parker Bowles least acceptable as queen are those who are most monarchist. With them she is unpopular not for herself but because she is seen as a threat to their values.

Camilla Parker Bowles's divorce is therefore an embarrassment to the Prince of Wales: indeed it might have been preferable to have postponed it at least until after his own divorce, if that is to occur. The Prince is in a position in which he faces a question he cannot answer, yet it is one that everyone will ask, and will go on asking. He can hardly say that he will never marry, or will never marry Camilla. He can hardly say that he hopes eventually to marry her, with all the constitutional difficulties that would arise.

In 1936, there were not only the intentions of the King to be considered, but also those of Mrs Simpson. At the last minute she did indeed foresee the false situation she was letting herself in for, and the alienated life that lay ahead. She tried to draw back, but it was too late. No doubt Mrs Parker Bowles is feeling her own anguish. This drama may decide the future of the monarchy, but there is also in it almost infinite pain, for the couples, for their children and for those of their parents who are still alive. As a machine for torturing the innocent as well as the guilty, the rack had nothing on the divorce courts.



"We have grown apart and there is little of common interest between us... we have therefore decided to seek divorce...."

## An unnecessary rout

The Tories have introduced a sly form of nationalisation — so why doesn't Blair have the sense to support it?

Tony Blair is looking like Lord Cardigan entering the Valley of Death. I can see him suppressing the panic rising in his gorge. He knows that duty calls. With a proud last glance at his Islington hussars, he moves his horse to a trot. Ahead lie the Labour guns, drawn up on the heights of Clause Four. He will reach them at a party conference on April 29.

There is a Lord Raglan somewhere in the sky cursing every attempt by a Labour leader to show bravado and modernise his party ideology. Mr Blair's struggle over the commitment to public ownership is a case in point. To most members of the public, it is so daft, so irrelevant and so implausible as not to be worth a fight. It is like repealing capital punishment for treason or for ravishing the Sovereign. There are more important things to be done between breakfast-time and tea.

Yet on Monday Mr Blair launched something strangely entitled Labour's "1995 agenda". It had three items. He says he wants to stop rail privatisation, curb the profits of privatised utilities and restore mortgage subsidies for the unemployed. That makes two lost causes — he says he will not renationalise either — and one that is merely expensive. This agenda is so lacking in fibre as to qualify for a New Labour mustil joke. At least when the party rebels talk of common ownership of the commanding heights of the economy you can see a stir run through the ranks and Dennis Skinner charge forward with blood dripping from his fangs. The troops know what is expected of them.

Mr Blair must believe that public utilities should either be in the public sector, or not. This is surely a matter of some principle. He says that under Labour he might keep them in the private sector. This is odd. Small wonder his followers are showing concern. I cannot see why he does not opt for public-sector control in ringing terms, and leave his lieutenants to argue later about ownership, money and timing. This would require at most a modest change to Clause Four. What is the problem?

The problem is that both Labour and the Tories are on ideological autopilot over privatisation. They wander the corridors of Westminster waving banners on which is written "Ya Boo, Privatisation" or "Ya Boo,

Nationalisation" or, in Mr Blair's case, "Um... Er". Just as politicians misread what happened under Attlee as nationalisation, so they misread what happened under Thatcher as privatisation. The words are chips in a political game. Out in the goods yards, the water works and the power stations, a grinding industrial war is being fought. Workers there view the antics at Westminster as frontline troops might view a rowdy garden party at staff headquarters.

This week, ministers found themselves in two spots of bother, over railway tickets and over electricity

disposal. The track company, Railtrack, will remain under *de facto* government control, since its monopolistic charges will be determined by Mr Swift. It can be subsidised by the Government to carry uneconomic freight for social reasons. It is even being told to discontinue Scottish sleepers. Mr Swift's lawyers are currently trying to work out who should pay what to whom for sharing lavatories on Paddington station. This is government doing what used to be done by British Rail.

Labour in office could do what it liked with Railtrack without having

Simon Jenkins

to buy any of the shares. It can do the same with the new operating companies. For instance, clause 29 of the Act insists that any surplus profits made on the railway will go straight to the Consolidated Fund. This is the same "creaming" of surpluses that is being used for television franchises and trust hospitals. The industry cannot use them to cross-subsidise unprofitable services as before. In future these subsidies will come not from within the rail business but from the Secretary of State in Whitehall. His agents in this is another strap, called the Franchise Director, who, the Act says, must do what he is told by any Whitehall Posh-Bah. All these decisions used to be made within the industry.

For ministers to reshuffle an industry's local operating surpluses is the best indicator I know of true nationalisation. Even Attlee balked at this when setting up the British Transport Executive with delegated powers. I would love to know whether Mr Blair agrees with this, as a socialist should. He merely shows "privatisation" at it, which is absurd. True, some of his trade union supporters will no longer be employed by the State. But as Prime Minister he will have control, irrespective of the pattern of ownership. There is nothing that a Labour government could want to do with

the railway that it cannot do under the present Act. The industry is as "public sector" as any European parastatal. Mr Blair's attitude is mystifying.

Electricity presents an even more curious picture. The current bid for Northern Electric from Trafalgar House is a challenge to Nigel Lawson's "golden share" strategy. When the Government rushed through the privatisation of the water and electricity monopolies in the late 1980s, it maintained a government share, so as to veto takeover bids. This, coupled with a supposedly tough price regulator, left the industries in private ownership and management, but under effective government control. The golden shares in electricity and water expire this year. Every household's electricity and water bill is enigmatically vulnerable to takeover.

Established energy utilities are a licence to print money for their owners. However, though, their regulators are notoriously vulnerable to "industry capture". As distinct companies, they can at least be watched. Now that they can be taken over, their cash-filled balances are hopelessly appealing to impoverished conglomerates such as Trafalgar House. For all the regulator's efforts and Trafalgar's protestations, Northern Electric's captive consumers are poised to cross-subsidise the Q&Q's litigious passengers. Golden shares were supposed to stop this. Together with price regulation, they turned "privatisation" into what was really an acceptable form of nationalisation. Ministers were able to control an important monopoly and answer for it to Parliament without having to own or run it. The Government was mad to phase out these shares.

Yet this nationalisation Mr Blair seems to oppose. Or does he? He has not said that he will bring the energy monopolies back into the public sector. He has not even said that he will reintroduce the Tories' old golden shares as a proxy for public ownership. Yet such a form of control is surely a model for New Labour's industrial policy. It offers power over an important industry without the bane of ownership. Capitalism can be kept at bay, and profit regulated. Perhaps Mr Blair has not heard of golden shares. Perhaps he will think about them now. Perhaps, frankly, he is just not sure.

Alan Coren



You might fancy seeing yourself cavort in the flicks, but what if all the old stars ignore you?

Of all the exhibition joints in all of the towns in all of the world, you would not want to walk into the Las Vegas Convention Center. That is because you might run into Snappy, and Snappy could do you a serious mischief. For Snappy is one of 41,000 cutting-edge gadgets currently being demonstrated at the 1995 Consumer Electronics Show, and what Snappy could do is star you in *Casablanca*.

According to *US Computer Monthly's* review of the exhibition, Snappy could do this for only \$200. It is a gizmo which, plugged into your personal computer, "allows you to manipulate video images so that, for example, you can place yourself alongside Bogart and Bergman at Casablanca airport, walk the street with Gary Cooper at high noon, dance with Gene Kelly in the rain... In short, for \$200 you can fulfil everyone's dream of playing in just about any movie ever made."

Oh really? Are dreams so easy to fulfil? I think not.

The record on dreams generally proves that they are somewhat easier to shatter, and it is my guess that if Snappy's own dream is to retire on the proceeds of physically inserting us into celluloid worlds we have hitherto only speculated — however metaphorically transported we might have been while speculating — then Snappy's dream will prove to be as fragile as ours. And I set aside here the collateral damage done to the film itself: while *High Noon* may never be the same for having a denouement in which, with the clock showing 11.55, a grinning man from Cricklewood in a baggy cardigan suddenly walks through a wall into Main Street, or *Singin' in the Rain* be hard-pressed to recover from a scene in which the remarkable new star of *High Noon* reappears in order to slouch about asynchronously in the gutter while Gene Kelly twinkles on the sidewalk, the destruction of a "serious work of art" is not the issue here. The issue here is the extent to which the interloper can integrate, for only thus may he realise the dream that Snappy maintains everyone has of becoming a part of the whole iconic shenanigan.

So picture this. Synthetic fog swirls about the *Casablanca* set. In the background, as fateful aero engines cough alive, Bogart and Bergman stand for their parting moment, so that Bogie can pass on to her his considered view that the problems of three little people in this crazy world don't amount to a hill of beans. But Bogie has not noticed that they have been joined by another. This other has worked hard to prepare himself for the part. He has shed his baggy cardigan and donned a nice creased Burberry and a wide-brimmed trilby, set at a rakish angle. A cigarette starts from his lips, which, at this point, are pressed into further service. The lips say: "Make that four little people."

But neither Bogart nor Bergman responds. This is not because they do not know who this fourth bit is who has unexpectedly materialised from the pea soup to throw in his lot with them and Paul Henreid, or what part he might have played in the plot which has brought them to this bank and shoal of time, it is because they do not know he is there at all. They cannot see him. As if to emphasise this, when Bogie now says "Here's looking at you, kid," there is only one kid he is looking at.

Because the reality, as opposed to its virtual simulacrum, is that the man from Cricklewood, jiggle his keyboard however he may, is as doomed to be no less a bystander at these proceedings than he was when he first watched them from the one-and-mine's. Worse, his painful attempt at inclusion serves only to exclude him further now than then, for it is one thing to identify with Bogart, but quite another to attempt unsuccessfully to replace him. Oh, look, he has pushed a head taller than Bogart, he has stopped smoking, he is talking Swedish, but Bergman nonetheless continues to ignore him, because she can do nothing else, she must get on the plane with Henreid. All the dreamer can do is stand there and mutter: "Well always have Cricklewood," which nobody hears.

For you must remember this, Snappy: you can put the movie into the boy, but however much time goes by, you cannot put the boy into the movie. The fundamental things apply.

## Camilla's tale

THE SAD business of the Parker Bowles divorce is to be followed up on celluloid. An American company is to make a mini-series based on *Camilla: The King's Mistress*, a lively biography by the British journalist Caroline Graham.

The film will be made by the outfit that turned Andrew Morton's book *Diana: Her True Story* into a mini-series. Its producer, Martin Poll of Colibria Productions, which bought the rights only days ago, believes that Camilla's story too will make compulsive viewing. "I heard of the divorce this morning," he said from his Los Angeles home yesterday. "I decided straightaway to go ahead with the film. It's not only the best soap opera you can get, but it's Camilla's true story — and what a great title: 'The King's Mistress'."

Poll says he hopes to recall David Threlfall, the actor who played the Prince of Wales in the Morton mini-series, to step into the Prince's shoes again. Other suggestions include Helen Mirren or Miranda Richardson as Camilla, and *To the Manor Born* star Peter Bowles as Andrew Parker Bowles. Poll said he was saddened by the

formal separation but not surprised. "I've been looking into this for some time and it seemed pretty likely. Maybe, with the divorce, there's room for a sequel."

### Quick exit

THE MAN blamed in part for the escape bid in September, but a damning report by Sir John Woodcock criticised the prison under his governorship.

CLAUSE FOUR, BLAIR NIL



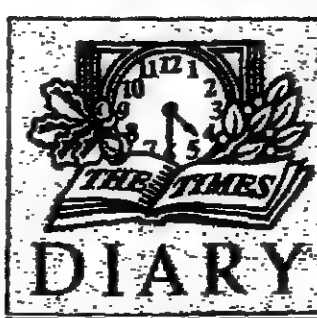
at Cambridge University. Andrew Barclay, former governor of Whitemoor, the top security jail, had been signed up by the Cambridge University Centre for Grand Paid to undergraduates last March to talk to its business club.

"When we looked him nearly a year ago, we had no idea how topical the subject would be by now," a club spokesman says. "But to be honest, I half expected him to cancel after recent events." Barclay, who withdrew yesterday, left Whitemoor in May last year before the escape bid in September, but a damning report by Sir John Woodcock criticised the prison under his governorship.

As Neil Kinnock was being grilled by MEPs in Brussels, along with other Commissioners-designate, Glynis Kinnock was stuck at home in bed. She was taken ill on Sunday night and doctors at the European Parliament's medical centre insisted that she should rest.

### Roar material

ARFUR the lion's days as a crowd-puller are far from over. The London Zoo celebrity, which died on Monday, is to be stuffed and given pride of place in the Royal Museum of Scotland's wild cat collec-



tion. A taxidermist from the Edinburgh museum has already supervised the removal of his skeleton for research and his skin for stuffing with foam.

"We like to show animals involved in natural behaviour," Andrew Kitchener, the museum's curator of mammals and birds, explains. "They might be following a scent or hunting. Sometimes we do animals mating, but of course we need another Asiatic lion with Arthur to achieve that."

### Four eyes

GORDON BROWN'S constituency office appears to be the headquarters of Clause Four supporters. The advertisement in yesterday's *Guardian* calling for Clause Four to remain in Labour's constitution invited party organisations

and affiliates to write to an inveterate address which seems to be the Shadow Chancellor's office.

The Scottish Office Minister, Alan Stewart, has written to Brown seeking confirmation, quoting it as a matter of public interest. "May I ask you to confirm that the Clause Four campaign opposing the Labour leadership is being masterminded at the address of your constituency office? Second, what is the method and source of payment for the campaign?"

Fans of Luciano Pavarotti will have to part with more notes than ever before to see his greatness in Verdi's *Un Ballo in Maschera* at the Royal Opera House this April. The best seats will soon be going on sale for £267 — a record for performances other than a charity gala.

### Hot property

AT THE end of the day, Andy Cole's record-breaking £7 million transfer to Manchester United left Newcastle fans gutted. There were hordes at the gates of St James' Park, the Newcastle ground, yesterday and the atmosphere was subdued at Archbishop's House, Westminster.

Cardinal Hume was philosophical but could not hide his regret. "If



Andy Cole: fire in his boots

this is what Andy Cole wants and if it is what Kevin Keegan judges to be correct, then so be it. But I am a little sorry."

Doug McAvoy, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers and a huge fan, took it on the chin. "Taking Cole to Newcastle is one thing, but selling the cinders of a profit might allow investment in local talent — Alan Shearer."

P.H.S





## REBELS WITHOUT A CLAUSE

Blair's opponents cannot justify the status quo

Labour is the most conservative of parties. Whenever a leader embarks on a reform, however overdue, he faces the same intransigent noises from the Left, complaining of unnecessary distractions from the business of opposition and chances for the Conservatives to exploit divisions within Labour. These arguments were used when Neil Kinnock expelled members of Militant Tendency from the party and when he instituted a policy review. They were used when John Smith brought in one-member-one-vote for party elections. And they are now common currency in the debate over Tony Blair's plan to reform Clause Four.

Yesterday, an extraordinary advertisement, purporting to represent the views of 32 Labour MEPs, called for the retention of the offending clause. "With Britain and much of the world in crisis," it said, "this is no time to jettison this powerful weapon for social and economic justice." Yet the values that the writers of the advertisement claim to be the essence of Clause Four — "opportunity, equality, fairness, justice and democracy" — are those that Mr Blair wants to insert into Labour's constitution. They are not embodied in the current wording, which simply ties Labour to an anachronistic form of economic organisation.

Many of the MEPs were apparently unaware that this advertisement had been inserted: a few have now disowned it. But the timing is still unfortunate for Mr Blair and his modernising colleagues. And its prominence shows both the depth of the pockets and the strength of the organisation of his opponents. In a speech in Brussels last night, he strayed from the subject of Europe to deliver a few trenchant words to them. "The Labour Party," he argued, "is not a preservation society. Those who seriously believe we cannot improve on words written

for the world of 1918 when we are now in 1995 are not learning from our history but merely living in it."

As Mr Blair went on to say, a party that preaches change must be able to countenance change for itself. And if the only justification for the status quo is that change is a distraction or is divisive, that merely illustrates the hollowness of the case against modernisation. No company could eschew change for those reasons. Political parties, too, have to change to live.

Reform of Clause Four is not a distraction from the business of opposition: it is part of that very business. Labour's criticism of the Conservatives will carry little weight with voters if it does not know what it stands for itself. A 39-point lead in the polls can collapse very quickly if it is not underpinned by positive support for Labour's project. Simple dissatisfaction with the Government is not enough for Labour to win power, as the last general election proved.

Labour's policies cannot be modernised convincingly until they can be measured against a proper template of values. Even if Labour did stand for the common ownership of the means of production, distribution and exchange, that fact tells a shadowy spokesman nothing about how educational standards should be improved or whether rail travel should be preferred to roads.

Between now and the special conference in April, the Clause Four debate will intensify. In the short term, this may look like an embarrassment for the Labour leader. But the battle should also help to boost his popularity. As the fight over Militant showed, any Labour leader who takes on Arthur Scargill and beats him wins public acclaim. Mr Blair took a calculated risk in Blackpool last year: it should not be without reward.

## STATE OF DEVELOPMENT

A new guide to the British revolution in government

The Times Guide to The New British State, which is published today, is described by its authors as "a snapshot taken from a moving vehicle". The metaphor is apt. In compiling this survey of the nation's institutions and agencies, Michael Dynes and David Walker have documented a revolution in British government which has swept through Whitehall, local authorities and public services in little more than a decade. It has affected the lives of every citizen. Yet — remarkably — this is the first directory of the new institutional landscape to appear.

All over the world taxpayers are demanding better services, more efficient bureaucracy and lower public spending. Most of the movement's theoreticians have been American: James Pinkerton has written of the "new paradigm" in statecraft, while David Osborne and Ted Gaebler have led the intellectual campaign to "reinvent government". Yet the most ambitious practitioners of the revolution have been British. Civil servants from many other countries have flocked here to learn more about the radical reforms that have transformed this country's governing institutions in the past 15 years.

As the Times Guide shows, there is a genuine theoretical coherence to the changes. In their different ways, the Citizen's Charter, the NHS trusts, the Next Steps agencies and the new regulatory bodies reflect the belief that responsibility should be devolved as far as possible: that the town hall is not always the best mechanism of local governance; that government should be subject to market pressures and competition; and that transparency improves public services. These principles are clear enough. But the manner in which they have been implemented has been far more

contentious. In particular, the Government has yet to persuade the public that the new institutions it has created are sufficiently accountable. The recent embarrassments of the Prison Service illustrate the difficulties involved in devolving power within a bureaucracy. Many prison governors are clearly unready for the responsibilities that have been foisted on them; the lines of communication between Home Office, service and jails are quite unsatisfactory. It is hard to see who is accountable for what in this highly sensitive area of the criminal justice system. The fiasco of the Child Support Agency, similarly, shows how the new agencies will fare if they have poor performance targets.

For Labour, too, the Times Guide raises important questions: A new agency is not necessarily a "quango" simply because it does not fit into the old-fashioned local authority structure. The governing body of a grant-maintained school is not answerable to its nearest town hall; but it is more truly accountable to its parents than a local authority school could ever be. Nor is the local ballot box the only means of making a public service more accountable to its consumers: citizens exert pressure by making choices as well as by casting votes. Adapting to this new pluralism in local governance is one of the hardest conceptual tasks ahead of the Opposition.

None of these difficulties will be resolved without a ready supply of information. Policymakers need to know more about the new agencies; ordinary citizens need far more information too to learn what is being done in their name and how it affects them. It takes time to grow used to a new landscape. The new Times Guide is a map for those perplexed by what they see.

## FRONTIER VISION

Santer must switch off the protectionist channel

Television viewers across Europe should raise their remote-controls in salute to Sir Leon Brittan. Had the European Trade Commissioner not intervened earlier this month, French proposals to impose mandatory quotas on European broadcasters could well have been approved by the outgoing Commission of Jacques Delors before its writ ran out. The matter now awaits the attention of the new Commission, led by Jacques Santer, which opens its shop in less than a fortnight.

The presidency of the European Union has fallen to France for the first six months of this year; most observers would have expected Paris to concern itself with such issues as the Union's eastward enlargement, unemployment, or the threat to Europe from instability in the Maghreb. Not so France, it seems, intends to kick off with television, and the mighty machine of rewriting a European directive from 1989. It is curious that the directive in question is called "Television Without Frontiers": the French Government is determined to erect around European television a new Great Wall.

The directive was conceived in order to foster a "single market" in news, cultural programmes and entertainment. The French saw in it an opportunity to "protect" Europe from being "swamped" by American programmes; they demanded that more than half of all programmes broadcast across EU frontiers must be made in Europe. Britain and Germany, rightly objecting to quotas as an infringement of free

expression, secured the insertion of a caveat that this should only be required "where practicable and by appropriate means".

Even in its current form, the directive is opposed by commercial broadcasters, the British and Luxembourg Governments, and liberal Commissioners such as Sir Leon, Martin Bangemann and Romano Prodi. D'Archirafi. The French Government wishes, however, to eliminate the "where practicable" loophole, and had enlisted the enthusiastic support of João de Deus Pinheiro, the outgoing Portuguese Commissioner for Media and Culture. France felt that M Delors would prove altogether more receptive to this protectionist amendment than might the new President of the Commission. On this issue, at least, Paris cannot take Mr Santer for granted: a Luxembourgish, he may prove unwilling to support a move which would harm the interests of his own country.

Mr Santer must resist French pressure. Mandatory quotas would only weaken the competitiveness of Europe's broadcasting industry, create an unnecessary rift between the EU and America, and impair the development of new screen-based services. They would also offend against the principles of free speech. And culturally, they are certain to prove ineffective. France already has the strictest internal laws in Europe on what can be shown on television. By this attitude, its Government is not so much protecting its citizens as starving them of more attractive fare.

## UN peacekeeping role in disarray

From the Director-General of the Save the Children Fund

Sir, The election of a Republican majority in the United States Congress marks a watershed, it seems, not only for President Clinton's Administration but also for the United Nations.

This is apparent from Secretary-General Boutros Boutros Ghali's statement on January 6 that "enforcement action at present is beyond the capacity of the United Nations except on a very limited scale". His sad announcement comes in the wake of far-reaching criticism of the UN by members of the new Republican Congress and the introduction recently into the Senate of legislation that would make it well-nigh impossible for US troops to serve under a UN commander.

Few would argue that the expectations of the international community with regard to the UN since the ending of the Cold War have been exactly realistic. Many members have been torpid in their response to UN requests to provide troops and seemingly reluctant to stump up for the cost of UN interventions.

The consequent administrative delays have brought the whole concept of UN "peacekeeping" into disrepute: by the time the peacekeepers arrived in Somalia, Rwanda or former Yugoslavia, the demand was for peacekeeping and as a result all of these interventions have failed to a greater or lesser extent.

Secretary-General Boutros Ghali has once again put forward the proposal for a UN "rapid deployment force" to consist of "battalions stationed in their respective home countries but on call to the United Nations". Given the unfortunate inevitability of further post-Cold War conflict, this may well be one option worth pursuing.

However, such a force would be unlikely to provide what has been so notably absent in every recent crisis: namely the capacity to undertake an immediate, authoritative and independent assessment of the steps to be taken in order to prevent conflict degenerating rapidly into catastrophe.

Had the machinery referred to been in place and its recommendations followed, it is quite probable that the tragic loss of hundreds of thousands of lives that Save the Children and others have so often witnessed in recent crises would have been avoided.

Yours faithfully,  
NICHOLAS HINTON,  
Director-General,  
Save the Children Fund,  
17 Grove Lane, SE5,  
January 9.

From Lord Campbell of Croy

Sir, In addition to those main principles in the United Nations Charter, recorded in your timely leading article, "Utopia invented" (January 2), there was another insisted upon by important founder member states. It was incorporated in paragraph 7 of article 2, the key wording of which is: "Nothing contained in the present Charter shall authorise the United Nations to intervene in matters which are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any state..."

In the first few years of the UN reference was often made at its meetings to this clause when nations were apprehensive that their internal affairs might be investigated or interfered with. Since the Cold War came to an end, disturbances have flared up within individual countries, but article 2(7) has restrained action by the UN unless it is decided that a situation is causing a threat to international peace.

The UN has nonetheless sought ways of calming civil wars and saving lives by peacekeeping operations (not envisaged in the Charter) and by protecting the delivery of humanitarian supplies, both carried out by lightly armed forces. These actions are bound to appear weak and to give the impression of "ineffectiveness". They are surely better than doing nothing.

Yours faithfully,  
CAMPBELL OF CROY,  
House of Lords,  
January 3.

## Puccini programme

From Mrs Michela Giuliani Franklin

Sir, In his article today, "Airing of Puccini's epic produces discordant note", your correspondent translates the title of the RAI programme *La famiglia Ricordi* as *The Family Memoirs*.

The word Ricordi, in this case, does not mean memories. It is the name of the founder of the long-established and still going music publisher of Milan — a household name in Italy and in the musical world. They have patronised all the big names of Italian music for around 200 years and the name deserves to be left in its original.

After all, you would not dream of translating names like Verdi or Rossini. Greens? Little Reds?

Yours etc,  
M. FRANKLIN,  
Woodsome Lees, Packhorse Road,  
Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire,  
January 10.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-752 5046.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-752 5000

### Issues in restoring listed buildings

From the Honorary President of the Association of Conservation Officers

Sir, Teresa Gorman, MP, deserves my sympathy. She was clearly badly advised in undertaking the "restoration" of her listed farmhouse without the benefit of listed building consent ("When dream houses don't make the grade", January 9; letters, January 3, 6). The farmhouse, at least, will never be the same again.

I am, however, particularly saddened by the fact that your article may unduly alarm or discourage the many responsible owners, or potential owners, of historic buildings. Listed buildings represent not more than 2 per cent of all buildings, and they deserve our particular care. Contrary to remarks which you quote from Mr Adrian Dobson of the Renaissance Partnership, the local authority conservation officers are very knowledgeable indeed and, providing they are consulted beforehand, they will be very helpful.

There are only about 430,000 listed homes in the United Kingdom, not the 630,000 or so suggested in your article. Repairs, and indeed many alterations which do not affect the character of listed buildings, do not need consent, and 90 per cent of applications for alteration work which do affect their character are approved.

The point of making applications is to allow records to be made, and expert advice, or grants, to be offered. The result is not that owners' intentions are necessarily frustrated but, rather, that they are better informed — which is what Parliament intended.

Yours faithfully,  
MICHAEL PEARCE,  
Honorary President,  
Association of Conservation Officers,  
52 Hollows Close,  
Salisbury, Wiltshire,  
January 9.

From the Vicar of St Aidan with St Gregory and St Oswald, Small Heath

Sir, Mr Godfrey Carter (letter, January 6) expresses his sympathy with Mrs Gorman, together with "a sense of guilt" for his own role in drafting the law on alterations to listed buildings.

I wonder if I might risk adding to Mr Carter's sense of guilt by asking whether he intended that the process by which a building is listed should become, as in my experience it has, secret until the owner is notified by letter.

I am the incumbent of a church built in the early part of this century in what is now an inner-city area of Birmingham. In 1988 the Department of the Environment categorically refused a request for listing from a parishioner. Nevertheless, in the autumn of 1994,

out of the blue, I received a letter from the Department of National Heritage, informing me that the church had just been listed.

There had been no consultation with or notification of myself as incumbent, or with the churchwardens, the archdeacon, the bishop, the city planning authority or the Council for the Care of Churches. Indeed, as I now know, the listing arose from a request by an individual (not even a resident in Birmingham) on the basis of his uncompleted study of the church. The only interested party to see that study was an English Heritage Inspector who had not even visited the church, and whose report was made available only to Department of National Heritage officials.

The financial and other consequences of this decision will be seriously harmful to an already poor inner-city parish seeking to serve its people.

Yours faithfully,  
G. A. WILKINSON,  
St Aidan's House, 172 Herbert Road,  
Small Heath, Birmingham 10,  
January 6.

From Lord Kennet

Sir, I was interested to read Mr Godfrey Carter's letter on alterations to listed houses, since I was the junior minister who wrote the section of the 1968 Town and Country Planning Act which Mr Carter tells us he had to put into legal shape as Parliamentary Counsel. He writes:

With misgivings, I drafted a clause which made it an offence to alter a listed building in such a way as to affect its quality as a building of architectural or historic interest.

In fact the only change from the pre-existing law was that the word "substantially" was now left out before "affect". I thought, and Parliament agreed, that the effect of any alteration on the quality of an important building should be publicly examined before being carried out.

I share Mr Carter's sympathy with those householders whose local authority is unreasonably pernickety, but one should remember that every planning refusal tends to be seen as unreasonable by the applicant: the appeal system is available.

Certainly the 1968 Planning Act has been quite an important part of the system which reduced the galloping loss of the built heritage we faced in those days: 400 listed buildings completely lost every year.

Yours sincerely,  
WAYLAND KENNET  
(Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Housing and Local Government, 1966-70),  
House of Lords.

### Justice in West case

From the Secretary of the Criminal Bar Association

Sir, David Pannick, QC, states ("Juries have minds of their own", January 5) that fears that newspaper coverage of the death of Mr Frederick West might prejudice a fair trial for the remaining defendant are unfounded. Apparently, a direction from a trial judge to a jury to ignore all that has gone before should be sufficient to dispel bias.

Those of us who practise in the criminal courts are aware of the adverse feeling which can be generated against a defendant before a trial starts. It is impossible to determine how deep that prejudice may be. Re-

porting restrictions should be honoured in the case of Mrs West, to prevent the trial process being damaged by unfair external pressure until guilt or innocence has been resolved. Her right to a fair trial upon admissible evidence must also be protected.

At this stage details of the allegations against Mr West, if needed, can be given privately, by the police and counsellors, to those with a genuine interest. They should not be proclaimed in newspapers under the guise of public interest. That can come after the conclusion of proceedings against Mrs West.

Yours faithfully,  
STEVEN KAY (Secretary,  
Criminal Bar Association),  
3 Gray's Inn Square, WCL.

### Machines versus man

From Mr Raymond Franks

Sir, While one appreciates the problems of the jobsite it is difficult to criticise "business circles" for preferring machines to man under the employment conditions existing in this country and most of Europe (Dr M. A. Flint's letter, December 30).

A machine does not require the employment of additional staff for the keeping of PAYE records, nor does it impose the costs of National Insurance, paid holidays, sickness pay or maternity benefit. It can be worked, in many cases, for 24 hours per day and will not expect overtime pay, and never goes on strike for higher wages.

Nor does it require redundancy pay in the event of a recession or have the ability to sue for wrongful dismissal. The problems of sex discrimination, sexual harassment, and the allegedly damaging effects to health of secondary smoking in the place of employment do not arise.

### A sour taste

From Mr Stephen M. Hustler

Sir, On a recent visit to a restaurant my wife was presented with her main course, but not the requested fresh vegetable mornay.

The waitress apologised and said there would be only minimal delay as that fresh dish was actually "boil in the bag", taking only a minute in the microwave.

What other occasion could equal this as to honesty and the truth being so unappetising?

Yours faithfully,  
STEVE HUSTLER,  
31 Hallows Drive,  
Dronfield,  
Sheffield, South Yorkshire,  
January 8.

The fact that the preference for machines rather than man inevitably creates unemployment may well be deplorable, but in an increasingly internationally competitive world their attractions to any modern business are obvious.

Yours truly,  
R. FRANKS,  
Hillcrest House, Manor Gardens,  
Thornor, West Yorkshire.

From Dr John D. Farquhar

Sir, I am old enough to have worked in a gang planting trees and thinning plantations with spade and axe; and while I admire the machines which have replaced us, Dr Flint's equation — one skilled machine operator equals several manual workers on the dole — needs another negative term: the lost pleasure of working in a team.

Yours faithfully,  
J. D. FARQUHAR,  
15 Mill Way,  
Ampleforth, North Yorkshire.

### Nizam's jewels

From Mr Raymond D. Hall

Sir, The decision of the Indian Government to purchase the jewels of the Nizam of Hyderabad (report, January 4) for the sum of £25 million is an affront to the work of British charities and government aid given to combat poverty and disease within India.

Surely this sum of money could be better spent.

Yours faithfully,  
R. D. HALL,  
2 Maxwell Road,  
All Saints,  
Wolverhampton, West Midlands,  
January 5.

### Covent Garden's case for funds

From the General Director of the Royal Opera House

Sir, Richard Morrison suggests ("Lottery cash? It should be us, darling", Weekend, January 7) that I explain why, when Glyndebourne cost only £35 million, the Royal Opera House extension will cost more than £150 million. There are good reasons; our scheme is bigger, and more complex.

Glyndebourne is a jewel of the English summer: in its festival season it gives 80 performances of six operas. The Royal Opera House already offers 270 performances a year, roughly twice as many patrons each evening. In the new house, by modernising the stage facilities and adding a studio theatre to the main auditorium, we shall give 400 performances of more than 40 operas and ballets to 600,000 paying customers.

We shall also create a home for the Royal Ballet, whose rehearsal space is now split between Covent Garden and Baron's Court. We shall in addition refurbish and revitalise two Grade I listed buildings — Barry's theatre, built in 1858, and his Floral Hall (1859), now in disrepair, which will become a much needed, spacious public salon. We shall, in other words, ensure that Britain's capital continues in the next century to enjoy opera and ballet to the highest international standard.

I did say the other day, and will say again, that this can be seen as a bargain, even at a cost of over £50 million, not just because it is a third of the total cost and we shall find more than two thirds ourselves, but because £50 million represents a seventh of the cost to the French public recently of building a new opera house in Paris.

Facing up to the true cost of repairing and sustaining the infrastructure of valuable public services, whether schools, railways, hospitals, prisons, museums or theatres, so far from being cheeky, is actually responsible common sense. The alternative is dearth and dereliction. Who wants that?

Yours faithfully,  
J. ISAACS,  
General Director,  
Royal Opera House,  
Covent Garden, WC2,  
January 9.

### Publishing costs

From Mrs Sheila M. Smith

Sir, Poor paper and binding make it unlikely that many of today's titles will be handed on to our children to enjoy in the way that we have enjoyed our parents' books (letters, January 9). We who work in book production have long been aware of these problems and have fought hard to maintain the standards of printing, paper and binding that go to make a book an object for future generations to love and to cherish.

Unfortunately the cost constraints of modern publishing have meant that these standards have been dropped, usually with the comment that "nobody will notice". At last it seems that people are noticing, and I do hope that this will encourage enlightened publishers to revert to the standards they have so blithely abandoned over recent years.

When I worked in the production department of Jonathan Cape (before the Cape production department was disbanded and the list produced by the general production department of Random House) we produced a uniform series of the works of Gabriel Garcia Márquez, on good-quality paper, with sewn binding, real cloth covers and head and tail bands. These were beautiful books and will certainly stand the test of time. Could other publishers not do the same for their authors?

Yours faithfully,  
SHEILA M. SMITH,  
50 Hatley Close,  
Friern Barnet, N11,  
January 9.

### Need for reassurance

From Mr Mark Romer

Sir, Could you not persuade Dr Thomas Stuttaford to put on his spectacles again? Without them, his medical column today (Body and Mind) seemed to lack something of that kindly authority to which we have happily grown accustomed.

Yours faithfully,  
MARK ROMER,  
Gillings Hill, Arkesden Road,  
Clavering, Saffron Walden, Essex,  
January 3.

### Gender extension

From Canon P. G. L. Cole

Sir, Camelot and the legal profession were not the first to recognise the existence of a third gender (Mr David Deane's letter on his new lease, January 4). Others indeed have been more specific.

In a survey emanating from Church House some years ago I was asked in the final question to indicate my status by putting a tick as appropriate against the following questions: Male? Female? Clergy?

Yours faithfully,  
PETER G. L. COLE,  
Marula Cottage, Lower Street,  
Finlworth,  
Pulborough, West Sussex,  
January 4.







OBITUARIES

PRINCE SOUPHANOUVONG

Prince Souphanouvong, former Pathet Lao leader and President of Laos, 1975-86, died on January 9 aged 82. He was born in Luang Prabang in 1912.

ARISTOCRAT turned left-wing revolutionary. Prince Souphanouvong played a leading role in the struggle to expel the French from Laos in the late 1940s and early 1950s. Though not himself really a convinced Communist at that time, rather a romantic type of revolutionary, Souphanouvong, as leader of the Pathet Lao guerrilla movement, found himself enlisting help from the Vietnamese against the French and was later in conflict with the Americans.

Subsequently he played a role in various administrations under his US-backed half-brother, Souvanna Phouma who, as Prime Minister, presided over a number of fragile coalition regimes, all of which dwelt in the shadow of the escalating conflict in neighbouring Vietnam.

With the end of the Vietnam War in 1974 and the establishment of a Communist People's Democratic Republic in Laos, Souphanouvong, dubbed the Red Prince because of his royal blood and left-wing leanings, was given the largely honorary office of President.

Souphanouvong was a son of Prince Boun Khong, "Viceroy" of the Kingdom of Luang Prabang. After taking a civil engineering degree in Paris he served in the Public Works Service in French Indo-China from 1938 to 1945. During these years he married his Vietnamese wife.

On the Japanese surrender he was flown by United States agents to Hanoi for a meeting with Ho Chi



Minh and after the proclamation of Laotian independence he was appointed Foreign Minister and Commander-in-Chief in the provisional government. He thus became the principal organiser of Laotian resistance to the return of the French. In March 1946, in an encounter between his forces and the French, he was wounded and escaped to Thailand from where he continued to direct harassment of the French. However, when he later met other Laotian freedom leaders in Bangkok, he was alone in advocating that the Lao Issra, the Laotian freedom movement, should combine with the pro-Communist Vietminh resistance movement of Vietnam and in 1949 was expelled from the provisional government.

Souphanouvong fled to join the Vietnamese military leader General Giap and, as the leader of the Pathet Lao, the Laotian resistance movement newly formed with the backing of the Vietnamese, was with Giap when he conducted his diversionary invasion of Laos in the spring of 1953. Souphanouvong set up a Lao Resistance Government and, although this was never recognised even by Hanoi and Peking, took over control of the Laotian province of Phong Saly.

After the Geneva Agreement of 1954 which partitioned Vietnam, the Pathet Lao rapidly regrouped in their stronghold in Sam Neua, near the Vietnamese border, but the negotiations for a political settlement dragged on for three more years and lapsed when a right-wing government under American influence was installed in the Laotian capital, Vientiane.

However, in 1957 Souphanouvong went to Vientiane and after taking an oath of allegiance to the King, his cousin, he was made Minister of Planning in a coalition government under his half-brother Souvanna Phouma.

He next founded the Neo Lao Haksat (Lao Patriotic Group), a political party emanating from the Pathet Lao, and in a climate of increasing support for Pathet Lao

within the country this won 19 out of the 30 seats in the supplementary elections to the National Assembly in May 1958. But three months later, as the result of another swing to the right under American pressure, the government of Souvanna Phouma was toppled and Souphanouvong was imprisoned.

A year later he escaped and after a four-month trek reached the Pathet Lao's Sam Neua stronghold. From there he directed the Pathet Lao in its guerrilla operations.

But in 1962 Souvanna Phouma was able to form a new administration which included Pathet Lao as well as neutralist and right-wing elements. In this, Souphanouvong became a Vice-Premier and Minister of Economic Planning. But the fragile coalition was doomed to failure because of the widening conflict in Vietnam. Vietnamese Communists seeking to protect the Ho Chi Minh supply trail running through eastern Laos backed the Pathet Lao while the United States supported right-wing elements in the Vietnamese government. Souphanouvong again withdrew to the Pathet Lao strongholds against which, in 1964, Souvanna Phouma authorised strikes by American aircraft.

It was the prelude to general chaos which was to last for a number of years. In this period it became evident that Souphanouvong was not really in control of Pathet Lao operations. He became simply a figurehead and when, in the wake of the Vietnam War, the Pathet Lao seized power in Laos in 1975 it was clear that his appointment as President in the new People's Democratic Republic was a largely ceremonial one. He retired in 1986.

KATHLEEN TYNAN



Kathleen Tynan, writer and widow of Kenneth Tynan, died yesterday from cancer aged 57. She was born on January 25, 1937.

Brando, was so quintessentially of the Swinging Sixties that Antonioni (who had lurked in a corner) said it was exactly the image he wanted to capture in his film, *Blow-Up*.

During their 16 years together the Tynans managed to ricochet — on little visible income — between Paris and Andalusia. New York and Mexico, pursuing what Tynan regarded as the important things, the pleasures of loving and living, despite having two small children and Tynan's various journalistic projects. "It was the Sixties," Kathleen explained. "One could wing it."

The marriage began to founder when Tynan succumbed to his restless need for sado-masochistic sex and went off with a compliant lover, as Kathleen later recounted with stoic acceptance. Kathleen had by then begun to find her own niche as a writer of screenplays such as *Agatha* (1978), the film in which Vanessa Redgrave played Agatha Christie, and later of novels, and sanctuary in a love affair with the writer and oarsman Dan Topolski.

Tynan died with his family present in Santa Monica, California, in 1980, after which Kathleen began the herculean task of sorting out his extraordinary life for her astonishingly objective and much lauded biography of her husband, *The Life of Kenneth Tynan* (1987) and — as well as his range of debts — his enormous legacy of letters, an invaluable archive of 20th-century artistic life which were finally sold to the British Library last year. "It is an odd business to turn sleuth on one's husband," she wrote, but she was "a passionate sleuth", exhuming with affection a complex personality who, unusually, was not one whit diminished by her perceptive and exacting scrutiny.

Kathleen Tynan was one of London's best party-givers, the red drawing room at Thurloe Square being regularly filled with gatherings of literary. Only last summer she gave the last of her parties, the bookshelves emptied and symbolically draped with shrouds of muslin and empty picture frames. She moved out of the house she had shared with Tynan and into a small flat in Notting Hill, declaring that she was living like a student again and that her services to the Tynan industry were finished. But she was still working on a screenplay for Martin Scorsese about the life of Louise Brooks, the silent movie star of the 1920s by whom her husband had been besotted. She had later spent much of her time in Los Angeles, sharing a house with her good friend Shirley Maclaine, who was with her in London at Christmas.

She is survived by her daughter and son.

She attended Queen's College Harley Street, and first met Tynan fleetingly at a deb's party in a London mews flat in 1954. In her day at St Clare's Hall, Oxford, where she read an external London degree in English, she was seen as something of a Zuleika Dobson figure and was photographed by the young Tony Armstrong-Jones. In her last year the historian Raymond Carr told her that Oliver

Gates was "the nicest and cleverest undergraduate he had recently come across". Though deeply uncertain of her feelings, she married Gates in 1962 at Hampstead Parish Church.

Shortly afterwards the secret meetings with Tynan began, followed by more public meetings including one at Orson Welles's villa, where the great man appeared with a macaw on his shoulder. Later Tynan divorced the American writer Elaine Dundy and married Kathleen in 1967. Marlene Dietrich was their matron of honour. Tynan had decided he did not like girls who had to get up in the morning, so Kathleen willingly gave up her day job. Their first party, which was attended by Gore Vidal and Marlon

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CARLOS MONZON

Carlos Monzon, world middleweight boxing champion, 1970-77, died on January 8 in a car accident near his home in Santa Fe, Argentina, aged 52. He was born on August 7, 1942.

A FIGHTER who defended his world middleweight title a record 14 times, retiring undefeated, Carlos Monzon must be ranked among the best-ever at the weight. Yet, although reckoned in his native Argentina to be one of his country's great sporting properties, Monzon did not somehow generate the publicity in Britain and in America that other, lesser South American boxers have done.

Why this should have been so is not easy to say. Perhaps it was because only one of his championship fights was in the United States, although he was popular in Europe. In some quarters he was not credited with being a hard puncher. But this tended to be a verdict given from a safe distance. For example, Britain's middleweight champion in the early 1970s, Bunny Stirling, who at one time fancied his chances against Monzon, once described him as "bopping about" from the evidence of film. But

Monzon's apparently lazy, long left jab was deceptive. Although it appeared to drift rather than snap into the faces of opponents, it arrived on its target with poleaxing force.

Monzon's achievements inside the ropes tended to be overshadowed by the colourful life he conducted outside them. His career as a bit-part actor in steamy movies finally ended when he was jailed in 1989 for the murder of his third (common law) wife.

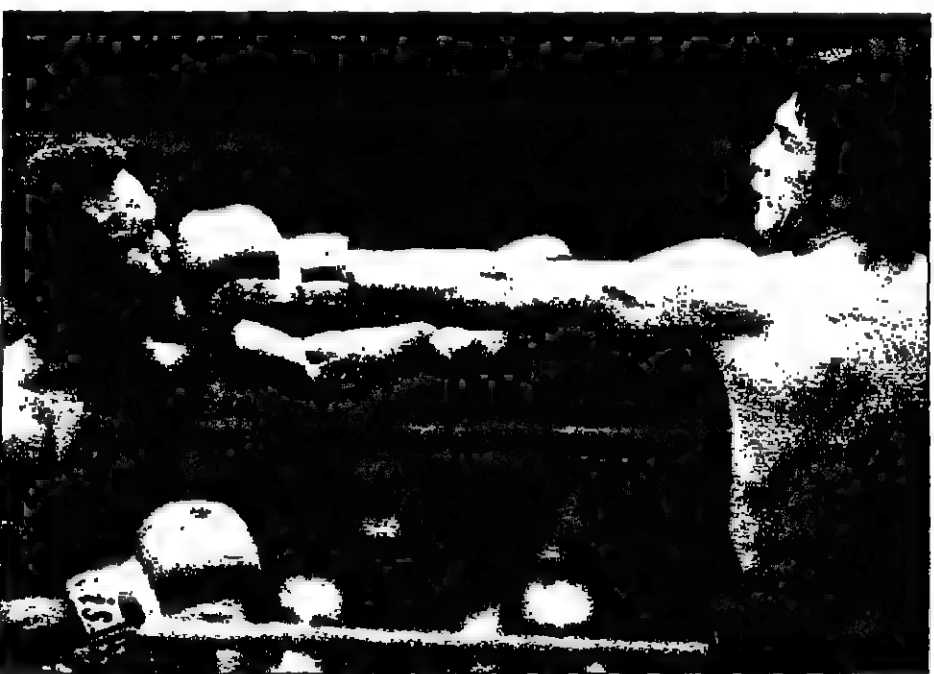
Born in Santa Fe, Argentina, into a large family, Carlos Monzon had a turbulent early life, most of it lived on the fringes of crime. Nevertheless, he avoided prison and took up professional boxing at the age of 21. He won the Argentine national title by outpointing Jorge Fernandez over 12 rounds.

He announced himself as a sensation to the wider world in 1970 in his first tilt for world honours against the reigning middleweight champion, Nino Benvenuti of Italy, in the cauldron of a Rome boxing ring. Benvenuti, who had won the crown from the formidable Emile Griffith and had never been off his feet in 88 pro fights, was confidently expected by the home crowd to see off this latest challenge from a virtual unknown. The result, a

knockout of the local hero by Monzon in the 12th, was mortifying in the extreme, with enraged fans leaping into the ring to attack the referee, though what the referee could have done to help the Italian idol to defend himself against the wicked jabs and left hooks with which Monzon had sapped his strength over the previous 40 minutes, was difficult to see.

In the event, when Benvenuti got the chance to salvage his honour in the following year, in Monte Carlo, the result was even more decisive. On that occasion a third round surrender by his seconds, when Benvenuti was on hands and knees, persuaded the Italian to retire from the ring.

Most of Monzon's defeats were against opponents of the highest class. Jean-Claude Bouttier and Emile Griffith both went down to KO defeats by him. Jose Napoles of Mexico, the very fine world welterweight champion, was at least expected to give Monzon some problems on account of his speed, when he stepped up a division to challenge for the middleweight crown in 1974. But Napoles never found a way past Monzon's pulverising jab, and what at the outset had promised a



Monzon, right, deploying his famed long left jab against Jose Napoles of Mexico in their world middleweight championship fight in 1974

better than usual challenge by a "good little" to a "good big" ended with Napoles pounded into submission and failing to answer the bell for the seventh.

Monzon's most bruising battles were his two against the Colombian Rodrigo Valdez. Valdez already held a version of the middleweight title, the World Boxing Council having — astonishingly — decided that Monzon was not busy enough in his defence, and stripped him of its share of it. Monzon eventually caught up with Valdez to banish the absurd illusions created by this piece of organisational opportunism, in Monte Carlo in 1976. The fight went 15 rounds. But Monzon was the clear victor, having dropped Valdez in the 14th. Monzon was himself on the floor on their return meeting in the following year, but picked himself up to thrash Valdez over a gruelling 15 rounds.

By that time, with nothing else to prove in the ring, Monzon retired. A grateful Valdez seized his chance to regain his title, with his most dangerous opponent out of the way.

Monzon's ring career brought him celebrity in his native land. He had started acting in films before retiring from the ring and continued a career in the cinema afterwards. If this was an affair of no great distinction it at least helped to keep the family coffers topped up.

But Monzon's tempestuous nature militated against an unalloyed enjoyment of his wealth. In the 1970s he was

sentenced to six months' jail for bawling his first wife, Beatriz Garcia, but was later pardoned. His second marriage, to an actress, Susana Gimenez, escaped the attention of the courts. But in 1988 he was arrested and charged with the murder of his common law wife, Alicia Muniz, a ballerina, after a violent argument during which they had both fallen from the balcony of the house where they lived with their young son.

Even in a machismo country like Argentina — where at that time domestic brutality was taken for granted and there was not a single refuge for battered women — Monzon stoked nascent fires of feminism with the arrogance of the comments he made after his arrest: "I insulted and beat my wife, but I can't seriously have harmed her because I beat all my women and nothing ever happened to them."

During the trial it emerged, however, that the boxer's wife had suffered severe neck injuries before the pair fell over the balcony of their home. Convicted of the "non-aggravated murder" of his spouse, Monzon was sentenced to 11 years in jail. He was driving back to prison in Buenos Aires after a period out on parole when he was involved in his fatal car accident.

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Radio and television programmes which suggest that science is just another point of view do the viewers a disservice

Far be it for me to say a word against Sir (or saint) David Attenborough. Through his natural history films, he has probably given more pleasure to more millions across the face of the globe than any other single person in the history of television with the exception of Oprah Winfrey. Starting tonight in a new six-part BBC series, he lifts the veil on one corner of nature that even he has neglected: plant life.

But is it science? Advance publicity suggests that what we are about to receive is a massive dose of anthropomorphism. Ascribing human characteristics to the animal kingdom may not be inappropriate in a week which has seen a national outcry over the conditions of calves in crates and none whatsoever over men in cells. But the "private life" of plants?

The *Radio Times*' titillating cover would do credit to a tabloid newspaper. "SHOCK!" it giggles, beside a photograph of the famous head grinning through thick foliage over an obscenely pink stamen. "Seaweed the size of trees." "HORROR! Attack of the

## Why experiment with science?



BRENDA MADDOX

stranger figs." And "SCANDAL! Watch an orchid get her man." I had hoped that these were just understandable excesses of a periodical determined to stay near the top of Britain's weekly best-sellers. Alas, Sir David has publicly conceded that he is anthropomorphising. Plants behave, he is now convinced. He cheerfully defends the speed-up photography that makes brambles appear to grab and grope, rather than just grow.

Sir David, it's a fair bet, will fill his assignment with his scientific reputation intact. He sports, as well as a handsome face and husky voice, an FRS after his name. But he ought to consider that his skills may be conveying a Disneyesque vision of Earth, on which animals, and even plants, are just like us, except nicer.

The universal appeal of wildlife programmes illustrates the larger

problem of conveying science on television. Medicine and health are vastly over-represented among programme topics. The process of scientific inquiry and developments in engineering are correspondingly given short shrift.

Getting the balance right causes a lot of worry for those at the BBC and Channel 4, broadcasters which accept a duty to put regular science series on the screen. (ITV doesn't even try any more.)

Given their good intentions, the BBC and Channel 4 nonetheless should not be let off lightly. Too often, as Nick Ross suggested in a session on science at the Edinburgh Television Festival last September, these programmes are masquerading as science, not science itself. Many other critics, over the past year, have accused science producers of pandering to animism, of serving up stories on ghosts, hypnosis, out-of-body ex-

periences, the Bermuda Triangle and UFOs, all under the guise of "science". On Monday night, Channel 4's *Beyond Love* even loaded necrophilia, autocratic asphyxia and self-mutilation onto its science flagship, *Equinox*.

A few years back the Royal Society set up COPUS, the Committee for the Public Understanding of Science, to try to raise the standard of science broadcasting. Since 1985, the Ciba Foundation

has run a Media Resources Service, which journalists across Europe can phone to find an expert who can provide reliable information on a scientific news story.

Professor Lewis Wolpert, chairman of COPUS, and himself a fine television performer, believes that programmes have improved considerably. Nonetheless, last year he refused to appear in *Horizon*'s series, *Heretics*, on scientific mavericks, on the grounds that it was in fact anti-science. He thinks science is better served by series written and presented by a scientist, such as Steve Jones's forthcoming BBC TV programmes on genetics, than by magazine programmes written by producers.

In recent months the BBC has tried hard on its popular science programmes, *Tomorrow's World* and *QED*, to be less gee-whizz and to present harder science and longer items. And even *Horizon*, a

model of its genre, continues to flirt with anti-science. Its *Close Encounters* on November 28 gave much time to people who believe they have been abducted by aliens and much less to the dull conclusions of the British psychologist that none of the fantasies could be supported by fact.

The paranormal also got undue respect on *Radio 4's Science Now* last week, with an inquiry into the physical properties of ghosts: how might they pass through walls laced with electricity wires? By what means do they they chill the room when they appear?

You may think a little blurring of the boundaries does not matter, in a decade in which a doctorate in physics has about as much market value as one in mythology. But in fact, to quote Professor Wolpert, "It does matter terribly".

Science is the basic intellectual endeavour of the modern world, and science programmes which try hard to accommodate the disbelievers in the audience do a public disservice, by suggesting that science is just another point of view, a collection of opinions by a self-interested minority.

So what is the well-intentioned science producer to do? Have faith in the pulling power of the mystery of the universe and in the intelligence of the audience. They do not need interstellar space to be made personally relevant. Convey science as a process of investigation and consensus on what can be known about the real world. Resist programmes on Siamese twins, and leave debates about the supernatural to religious programmes.

At Edinburgh, the struggling practitioners of science programmes consoling each other that science is the most difficult subject to convey on TV. It's not. Economics is harder. There too, anthropomorphism is dragged in — "The pound had a bad day but rallied in late afternoon" — but to little avail. The subject is unphotographable.

## The week the world turned upside down

When Maurice Saatchi resigned from his agency on January 3, he ended his letter to staff with the following sentences: "I look forward to 1995 with great anticipation. Because, as we have always believed at Saatchi & Saatchi... Nothing is impossible."

Until last Monday, these words looked like a typical piece of brave face from a humiliated star. But the surprise resignation of Jeremy Sinclair, the temporary acting chairman, and Bill Muirhead and David Kershaw, American and British heads of the Saatchi & Saatchi Advertising World Wide chain, has changed all that.

Now, as morale within the agency slumps, alongside a still falling share price, suddenly Mr Saatchi's last words have taken on a new meaning. In one fell swoop, the tables have been turned. All the talk now is of a Saatchi-led or orchestrated bid to regain control of his old agency.

Asked what they would be doing now if they were in the shoes of Charlie Scott, Saatchi's chief executive, three rival agency chiefs used the same word: "panic".

Maurice Saatchi may not have had half the amount of contact with clients as has recently been made out — the odd lunch with the odd chairman here and there — but he is "an extraordinary, well-connected businessman", says David Wetley, managing director of Agency Assessments, which advises clients on their relationships with agencies.

Mr Wetley adds that one of the key factors in Mr Saatchi's business success is his audaciousness. PR-hyped resignations like his are perfect for flushing out any potential backers for a bid, which, it is noted, would conveniently bypass the contractual obstacles which bar former lieutenants Sinclair,

How important are personal relationships to an advertising agency? As the drama at Saatchi's is played out, Alan Mitchell assesses the effects

Muirhead, and Kershaw working for rivals.

Mr Scott, since yesterday also acting chairman, is now working overtime to reassure clients and stop the exodus of key staff. The official line is that a business with 8,000 clients worldwide "does not depend on three people".

But that ignores the fact that the London agency, with which all three are closely associated, has recently been the jewel in Saatchi & Saatchi's crown, winning new business worth more than £100 million, compared with losses of less than £4 million. This is nearly twice as much as its nearest rival in the new business stakes, Abbott Mead Vickers.

The danger is now that many of Saatchi's less high-profile but none the less valuable clients, such as ICI, Trafalgar House, Allied Breweries, Burger King, British Sugar, Anchor Foods, Dixons or Toyota UK, will defect. They have as much reason to be alarmed as global players like Procter & Gamble and Mars, but find it easier to move: the big names are remarkably restricted in their choice. Most comparatively large agencies are closely tied to make like Unilever or Nestlé.

Mr Scott's biggest advantage is inertia. Clients rarely show much interest in the way agencies are

run, and the last thing they want to do is to change existing ad campaigns, find new people to trust and build new relationships. Most of them are lying low, waiting to see how the whole saga develops. That gives Mr Scott time to stop the flow of bad news and get back on an even keel.

Lyndy Payne of the Advertising Agency Register, an organisation that helps advertisers to choose agencies, says that the whole episode shows that Saatchi's dominant shareholders do not understand the intricacies of client/agency relationships.

It is precisely these relationships which are critical for clients like Sir Colin Marshall, chairman of British Airways, who credit Maurice Saatchi and his London agency colleagues for commercials such as the "Manhattan" campaign which helped to bring the company back from the dead.

The marketing director of one large Saatchi client, who asked not to be named, says: "This is a fundamental battle about the purpose of business. Is it to serve customers or shareholders?"

"If you can't find a way of serving both, there won't be a business," Saatchi's shareholders, he suggests, have ignored the clearly expressed views of clients, and

"they do so at their peril". Over the longer term, he suggests, important business will follow the people who have left. "It will be a classic business school study of what happens when an organisation doesn't serve its customers' needs."

Shareholders, of course, point to the fact that under Maurice Saatchi's chairmanship the business lost 98 per cent of its stock market value: arrogant prima donnas may bleed, but the price of being publicly quoted is being subject to the discipline of the market.

One effect is to reopen a long-running debate within adland: should agencies go public in the first place? No, says Robin Wright, the WCRS chief executive, who took his agency to the stock market in the mid 1980s. "It was the biggest mistake we ever made," he says, because it diverted the agency's attention from serving clients to doing deals and talking to teenage scribblers in the City. Yes, says Peter Mead, joint chairman of the highly successful quoted agency Abbott Mead Vickers. "It is exceedingly patronising to view advertising people as good at pictures and words but not very good at money." The so-called clash between bean counters and creatives is a cliché, and it's not true, he insists.

But the whole episode makes it appear so. Which is why adland is watching the saga with dismay. "People think that what Saatchi does, the whole industry does. It reinforces the stereotype that it is impossible to be a well-run business and be creative," says Rupert Lury, one senior agency executive, who asked not to be named, agrees. After all the bad press agencies have received, "it is not helpful to have this petty, vindictive behaviour built around egos," he says. "It is not the sort of message we are trying to send to industry."



Saatchi's campaign for the National Lottery (top) and for British Airways, now reviewing its account

## The film's the thing at the BBC

Alexandra Frean meets a man with plans to put the Corporation's one-off dramas into our cinemas



Faber: ambitious shake-up

George Faber, head of BBC single drama, is brimming with enthusiasm — a rare trait for a BBC chief, these days.

"Every year, the BBC makes a handful of movies that are at least as good as any British films released in the cinema. We should play our part in the renaissance of the British cinema. I would like to make around ten films a year for theatrical release," he says.

With this in mind, Faber yesterday announced an ambitious shake-up of his department. In addition to a drive to get more BBC films released in the cinema before they are shown on the small screen, he is creating two new single drama commissioning posts, adding an extra £3 million to the £49 million already earmarked for him to spend on the 1996/7 season.

He is setting up a £1 million fund to give grants of up to £100,000 for new, independent British film-makers. And he is creating 10 new one-hour films by new writers and directors for BBC on top of the 36

feature-length films he was already planning for BBCs 1 and 2.

Faber has no illusions that his innovations are going to provide a solution to the problems besetting BBC1. Nor does he think it will stem criticism of Alan Yentob, controller of BBC1, for losing peak-time audience share to ITV.

On average Faber's Screen One single dramas attract audiences of just six million, about half the figure of the most successful ITV dramas. (Two notable exceptions to this are *Pat and Margaret*, Victoria Wood's bitter-sweet comedy film co-starring Julie Walters, which attracted 10.5 million viewers in November, and Malcolm Bradbury's adaptation of *Cold Comfort Farm*, which was

watched by more than nine million on New Year's Day.)

He is nevertheless convinced that the BBC's single dramas are vital to the long-term future of the Corporation's series and serials departments as they can provide an invaluable training

ground for new writers. Jimmy McGovern and Andrew Davies began their television careers in this way, he says.

As the sole surviving British producer of television single drama, the BBC currently commissions more new writers than any theatre in Britain, Faber says. Each week, he received 50 unsolicited scripts. "Most of them are rubbish, but we make sure they all get read."

Although it is something he takes lightly, Faber, 35, seems perfectly at ease with this responsibility. Having joined the BBC in 1984 as a production trainee (after public school in Wimbledon, a first in English at Cambridge, and a couple of years bumming around Europe) he now feels he has one of the most exciting jobs in the Corporation.

His passion for cinema, sparked when he was a small boy by films like *The Wizard of Oz*, is obvious and his track record is sound. His own film productions for the BBC include *Antonia and Jane*, a comedy which obtained worldwide theatrical release in 1990.

Coming just one week after the writer Andrew Davies criticised the BBC for ordering drama by the yard like "trolls of carpet", Faber's attempts to revitalise his departments' output are uncannily well-timed. Looked at in a different light, however, they can also be seen as a long-overdue structural reform.

His plans arise partly from a desire to emulate the huge success Channel 4 has had with films such as *Four Weddings and a Funeral*, but

more from a feeling that much BBC talent is going to waste. Although the Films department, under Mark Shivas, invests in five feature films a year, Faber believes there is far more potential within the BBC.

"Screen One films have traditionally been made on a tight production timetable. I am aiming to make films well in advance so that if we want to give them a cinema release we can do so without leaving a hole in the schedule," he says.

The process is already beginning with *Priest*, written by Jimmy McGovern and co-produced by Faber, which will open in UK cinemas in March and around the world in April. It was originally made as a BBC television film.

Faber hopes that the lure of cinema release will also attract star writers and directors to his department as well as bringing in more co-production finance — although it is hard to see the immediate pull of a policy which involves waiting until a production has been completed before deciding whether it deserves to be seen in the cinema.

More attainable, perhaps, is Faber's ambition to boost ratings for Screen One dramas through "event scheduling" or screening individual films at strategic moments instead of tying them into a regular slot. Such a policy will require greater cooperation from both BBC channel controllers.

Faber is also broadening out the decision-making process by appointing two new executive producers, to commission films for both channels.

What may in the film industry would like to see from the BBC, however, is a move away from the traditional culture of "auteurism", the supremacy of the writer, and more weight given to the individuality of the director. This will be one of Faber's biggest challenges.

## THE TIMES Win the trip of a lifetime to the biggest party in history

Today is day 15 of *The Times Millennium 2000*, which offers readers the opportunity to spend New Year's Eve 1999 crossing the International Dateline to both Fiji and the Cook Islands to see in the new millennium twice. First prize is a 28 day world air cruise for two culminating in New Year 1999 in Fiji and the Cook Islands to join in the festivities. The trip takes in Dubai, Thailand, Singapore, Tucson, Washington and Sydney. It includes helicopter sightseeing over the Fiji Islands and hot-air ballooning over the Arizona desert, and would cost £64,000 to book in 1999.

A second prize of a ten day stay for two in Fiji and the Cook Islands worth up to £7,000 and a third prize of two tickets chosen from any of the millennium party venues available to readers are also on offer.

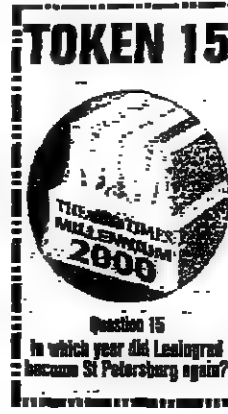
Should you be unsuccessful in the competition, you can still take part in the festivities by booking the Fiji and Cook Islands trip separately or taking advantage of our selection of deluxe party venues round the world.

You could, for example, celebrate the new millennium in St Petersburg, the former capital of Russia built by Peter the Great to compete with all the great European cities of his time. The city has survived the trauma of revolution and its glories are again accessible to visitors. Commencing December 28 1999, you will stay at the renowned Grand Hotel on Nevsky Prospect. The cost is £1,500 per person now or £35 per month per person for five years.

The parties are the brainchild of *The Millennium Foundation*, a non-profit-making charity which is organising fundraising parties to help specific local charities across the world. In St Petersburg the money will help restore the Hermitage Gallery and fund the Kirov Ballet, which will give a special performance to our partygoers.



**CORRECTION.** Please note that question 11 should have read: When did Mexico cede the state of California to the United States?



To enter the competition collect the 18 tokens and answer the 18 questions which are appearing between December 26 and Saturday January 14. Send the tokens and answers on a separate sheet of paper, stating in not more than 15 words why you would like to join in the celebrations, to: *The Times Millennium 2000 Competition*, 5 Brittons Court, London EC8B 6NG. Closing date January 31, 1995. Normal *Times* competition Rules apply.

Details of how to book the millennium gala parties, which appeared last week, will appear again on Saturday. Further information about the parties can be obtained by writing to: Millennium 2000 Ltd, Freepost GW 7623, Glasgow G3 7BR.

| THE TIMES TV TOP 20: RELIGIOUS PROGRAMMES vs FEATURE FILMS |        |       |         |                          |                     |  |
|--|--------|-------|---------|--------------------------|---------------------|--|
| December 19 to December 25, 1994                           |        |       |         |                          |                     |  |
| Programme  | Date   | Time  | Channel | Producer                 | Audience (millions) |  |
| 1 Carols From King's                                       | Sat 24 | 17.15 | BBC2    | BBC North                | 2.7                 |  |
| 2 Carols From Canterbury                                   | Sat 24 | 23.30 | ITV     | Peter Williams: TV Int   | 2.3                 |  |
| 3 Songs Of Praise  | Sun 25 | 10.00 | BBC1    | BBC North                | 1.9                 |  |
| 4 Songs Of Praise  | Sun 25 | 23.20 | ITV     | Imbrie/MVC/Arts          | 1.3                 |  |
| 5 Songs Of Praise  | Sat 24 | 23.47 | BBC1    | BBC North                | 1.3                 |  |
| 6 Christmas Midnight Mass                                  | Sun 25 | 11.56 | ITV     | Roger Bolton Productions | 0.8                 |  |
| 7 Christmas Midnight Mass                                  | Sun 25 | 11.00 | ITV     | Artistic Television      | 0.7                 |  |
| 8 Christmas Morning Service                                | Sun 25 | 11.30 | CH4     | Artistic Television      | 0.6                 |  |
| 9 A Gospel Christmas                                       | Thu 22 | 21.01 | CH4     | Artistic Television      | 0.6                 |  |
| 10 Witness: The Warehouse Men                              | Wed 21 | 13.55 | BBC2    | BBC                      | 0.4                 |  |
| 11 Songs Of Praise   |        |       |         |                          |                     |  |
| Feature Films  |        |       |         |                          |                     |  |
| 1 Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves                            | Sun 25 | 15.47 | BBC1    | 20th Century Fox         | 14.3                |  |
| 2 Police Academy 5   | Fri 23 | 20.34 | ITV     | Warner Brothers Int      | 10.0                |  |
| 3 The Untouchables   | Mon 19 | 20.02 | ITV     | Touchstone Pictures      | 8.2                 |  |
| 4 Sleeping Beauty  | Sun 25 | 16.08 | ITV     | Walt Disney              | 8.1                 |  |
| 5 Dead Again   | Sat 24 | 22.03 | BBC1    | Paramount                | 7.1                 |  |
| 6 Wayne's World  | Tue 20 | 21.33 | BBC1    | Paramount                | 6.9                 |  |
| 7 An American Tail: Fievel Goes West                       | Sat 24 | 17.32 | BBC1    | Amblin/Universal         | 5.8                 |  |
| 8 Santa Claus: The Movie                                   | Sat 24 | 14.50 | BBC1    | Alexander Baklund/Coleh  | 5.8                 |  |
| 9 Many Moons   | Sun 25 | 13.12 | ITV     | Walt Disney              | 5.7                 |  |
| 10 Wild Cats   | Sat 24 | 20.10 | ITV     | Warner Brothers Int      | 3.8                 |  |

BARB (Broadcasters' Audience Research Board)/David Graham & Associates 0823-322229  
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## NEWS

## Blair attacks Clause Four rebels

■ Tony Blair fought back fiercely against critics of his plan to rewrite Clause 4 of the Labour constitution saying that they were living in the past.

Furious that the Labour Party's new year offensive had been blunted by a newspaper advertisement purporting to show that more than 30 of its Euro MPs opposed modernisation of the clause, Mr Blair went to Brussels and told his opponents they were "not learning from our history but merely living in it".

Pages 1, 9, 18, 19

## Divorce leads to royal marriage speculation

■ An announcement that Brigadier Andrew Parker Bowles and his wife Camilla, who has had a long-standing affair with the Prince of Wales, are to divorce increased speculation that the Prince's own marriage could end shortly.

Pages 1, 3, 18

## Parkhurst chief goes

The governor of Parkhurst jail has been effectively sacked from his job in the aftermath of the escape of two murderers and an arsonist.

Page 1

## Journalist expelled

Britain is expecting a tit-for-tat expulsion of a senior journalist from Moscow, following a Home Office decision to expel a Russian television correspondent accused of spying.

Page 1

## Oxbridge club protest

David Butler, the political scientist, has resigned from the United Oxford and Cambridge University Club in protest at its refusal to grant women full membership.

Pages 1, 16

## Fishing campaign

Fishermen in Cornwall and Devon have promised a prolonged campaign of action to keep Spanish trawlers out of British waters.

Page 2

## Sex abuse damages

A woman was awarded more than £16,000 damages from her adopted father for childhood sexual abuse but failed in a bid to force him to contribute to the cost of psychiatric care.

Page 7

## Airlift for calves

Farmers are planning a livestock airlift to by-pass animal rights protesters who have been disrupting the shipping of calves to the Continent.

Page 5

## Restored pub's theme creates discord

■ A plastic knight on a smoke-snorting horse that winks and plays the overture to *William Tell* and a skeleton in a chair have brought Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries into dispute with English Heritage. The brewery is accused of ruining the appearance of a 13th-century Grade I listed house by turning it into a medieval theme pub.

Page 6

## Councils under fire

Too many local government officers are inefficiently employed, large numbers are overpaid and only a few councils function even adequately, according to two damning reports.

Page 8

## Congress sacking

Newt Gingrich has been forced to dismiss his new official Congress historian because she once criticised a school history course for not giving "the Nazi point of view".

Page 14

## Russians desert

The full extent of Russia's bungled operation in Chechnya was exposed after it emerged that scores of demoralised Russian troops had deserted.

Page 11

## Kohl's Algeria fears

Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, is becoming afraid that France will suck the EU into the Algerian war with Islamic fundamentalists.

Page 10

## 'Dirty war' dispute

Spain's opposition parties have dismissed denials by Felipe Gonzalez of official involvement in a "dirty war" against Basque separatists.

Page 14

## Freedom hope

Aung San Suu Kyi, the Burmese opposition leader who has been under house arrest since 1988, will be freed by the end of the year, according to diplomatic sources in Rangoon.

Page 10



Jude Liknaitzky, 15, from London, interviews Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, yesterday on aid and trade as part of the BBC World Service series *What's News?* in which young people give their views on international issues and talk to a leading public figure

## BUSINESS

Entertainment: PolyGram, the record and film production company best known for *Four Weddings and a Funeral*, is paying \$156 million for ITC Entertainment Group.

Page 25

Telecoms: British Telecom and the German group VIAG announced a venture that will try to break Deutsche Telekom's stranglehold on the business sector.

Page 25

Athens: The former subsidiary of the Pentos stores group has collapsed with the loss of up to 600 jobs.

Page 25

Markets: The FT-SE 100 index rose 4.6 points to close at 3060.4. Sterling's trade-weighted index fell from 79.5 to 79.2 after a rise from \$1.5547 to \$1.5600 but a fall from DM2.4155 to DM2.3934.

Page 28

## SPORT

Football: Manchester United broke the British transfer record by signing Andy Cole, the Newcastle United striker, for £7 million. Newcastle will get £6 million in cash and Keith Gillespie, the Northern Ireland winger.

Page 46

Crickets: England defeated Australia by 37 runs in a one-day match in the World Series Cup, but not without a price. Darren Gough was carried off with a stress-fracture of his left foot and is unlikely to take any further part in the Ashes tour.

Page 46

Rugby Union: England will gamble on Michael Catt, the Bath stand-off half, at full back in their opening five nations' championship match against Ireland in Dublin on January 21.

Page 43

## ARTS

Wedgwood at 200: Josiah Wedgwood, the father of modern pottery and one of the great pioneers of the Industrial Revolution, died 200 years ago this month.

Page 39

Focus on Peter: A celebration of the life and music of Peter Dinklage has opened in London having run for more than 1,600 performances in New York.

Page 40

Silent cinema: "It is impossible to deny that mime is the silent art form, stiller even than ballet," writes Jeremy Kingston, introducing this month's London Mime Festival.

Page 41

Rising stars: Some of Britain's top young musicians are performing on the South Bank this week in the Park Lane Group Young Artists Concerts.

Page 39

Equality for all: "The problems associated with going mixed are negligible. The advantages are great," David Butler explains why he is leaving the Oxford and Cambridge Club.

Page 16

Tackiness is in: Why vulgar people have more fun, by Alice Thomson.

Page 16

Winter warms: Shapely and sleek clothes add the "feel-good" factor to modern femininity, reports Iain R. Webb.

Page 17

Low morale: Alan Mitchell on why adland is watching the Saatchi & Saatchi saga unfold with dismay.

Page 23

Mr Yeltsin has lost the support of moderate political leaders, narrowed his circle of advisers and shed much of the moral authority he gained in his fight for reform. If Mr Yeltsin is truly committed to making Russia democratic, he must move quickly to end the war in Chechnya.

Page 21

One sure sign of Boris Yeltsin's deepening frustration over Chechnya is Washington's deepening frustration over Boris Yeltsin.

Page 19

## IN THE TIMES

■ GORE BLIMEY  
Geoff Brown on the blood-soaked French blockbuster, *La Reine Margot*

■ PRIMER OF LIFE  
Derwent May introduces a top-selling child's guide to philosophy

## THE TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, see 0500 followed by appropriate code.

Great Britain:  
North: 10-15  
East: 10-15  
West: 10-15  
South: 10-15  
Ireland: 10-15

## AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic information 24 hours a day, see 2400 followed by appropriate code.

London & SE: 10-15  
East: 10-15  
West: 10-15  
South: 10-15  
Ireland: 10-15

## HIGHEST &amp; LOWEST

Monday highest/lowest: London 11C/5C, lowest day max: London 10C/4C, highest night min: London 4C/0C.

## HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun sets: 5:03 pm, Moon rises: 12:25 pm.

## FORECAST

General: England and Wales will be mainly dry, but rather cold. A few wintry showers may affect coasts of eastern England. Northern Ireland will also be mainly dry, but Scotland will have wintry showers, especially in the north and east.

## Channel Forecast

Channel: cloudy with patchy rain at first, becoming mainly dry. Winds northwesterly moderate. Max 6C (43F).

## Aberdeen Forecast

Aberdeen: clear or sunny spells, a few wintry showers along the coast. Wind northwesterly fresh to strong. Max 3C (37F).

## Outlook

Outlook: dry at first, but rain spreading from the west, becoming milder.

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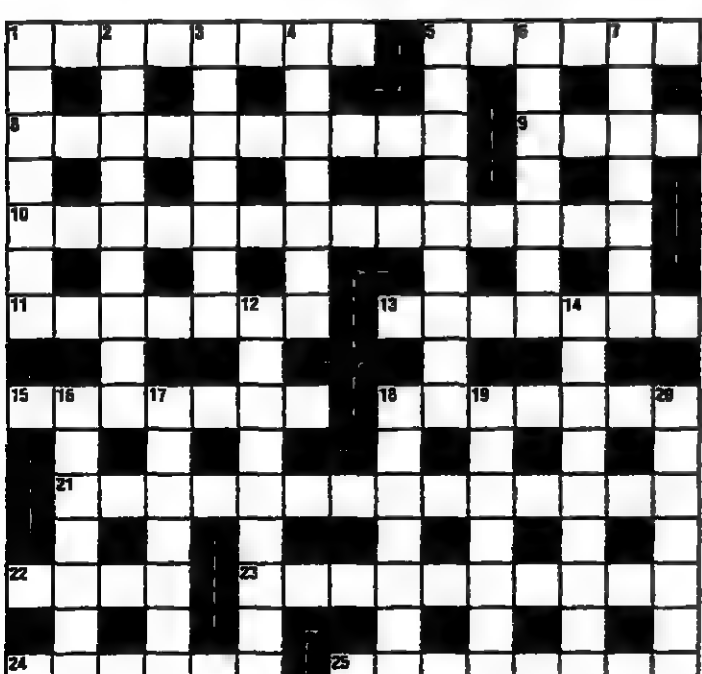
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## Outlook

Outlook: dry at first, but rain spreading from the west, becoming milder.

## THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,749



- ACROSS
- Current means of transport into club game (5)
  - Endlessly canoodle with sailor providing drink (6)
  - But Mrs Warren's Profession isn't such a bad play! (10)
  - It's spoken in Ecuador all the time (4)
  - Ill-humoured character directing us to another place (5-9)
  - Lives in lodgings, but refuses to comply (7)
  - A bargain spoken of for so long (7)
  - Moving ceremonial in smart person's earlier days (3-4)
  - Oriental thus accepting role of a grass (7)
  - Sentence originally introducing Macaulay's record of the distant past (4,10)
  - Deliberately provoke the elite (4)
  - Erase outside broadcast by educated person (10)
- DOWN
- He sings in a crudely built cabin (6)
  - County fellow without a supporter in retirement (8)
  - He throws out the troublemaker with a dud cheque (7)
  - Senior officer with godliness in abundance (9)
  - Absence of harmful bacteria—but one passes out! (7)
  - Swelling appears to tax a surgeon at first (7)
  - Infamous in Bordeaux, we put in to port (9)
  - Like an uneasy, lying Head—victim of a strike? (7)
  - Where we may learn to identify a rebel vessel (7)
  - Evidence upsets Athenian youth leader (9)
  - Writer seizes dishonourable fellow in bar (9)
  - Latvian salad ingredient named by a drunkard? (7)
  - Question relatives supplying plant (7)
  - In the heart of Greece, sports official turned referee (7)
  - Series of actions resulting in a summons (7)
  - Cotton product distributed from a Dee silo (3-4)

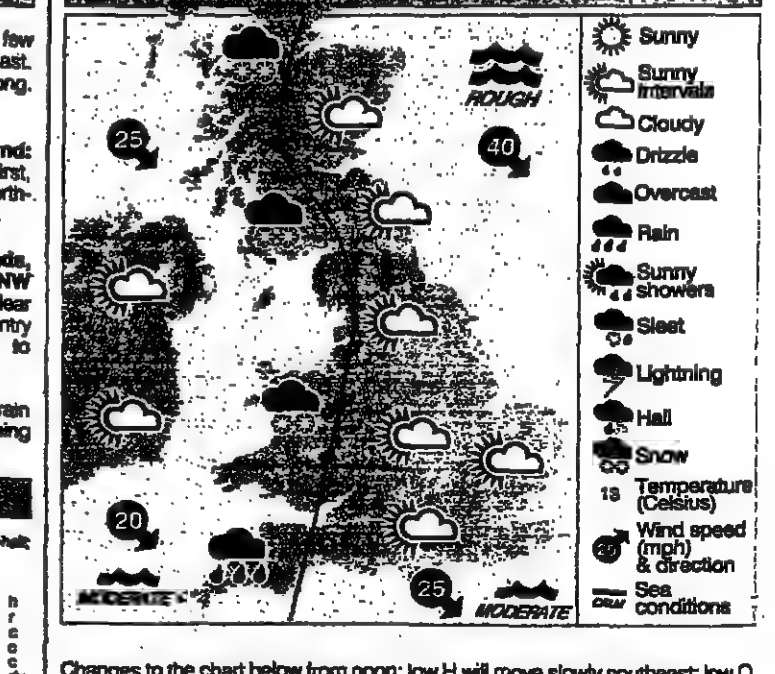
Solution to Puzzle No 19,748

JAMMY CASTIGATE  
U I O P N N Y  
M O D E R N I S E F U N G I  
P E K L L U N  
S P E C I A L R E A D I N G  
I S I M T  
A S T U T E A N T E D A T E  
S O H G E N N  
T A L I S M A N A B A T E O  
E U O  
B I R D S A F F E A T H E R  
O A P R E V O A  
C A B L E I T E R A T I O N  
U L C M N O S C  
S H E R I D A N O U T R A

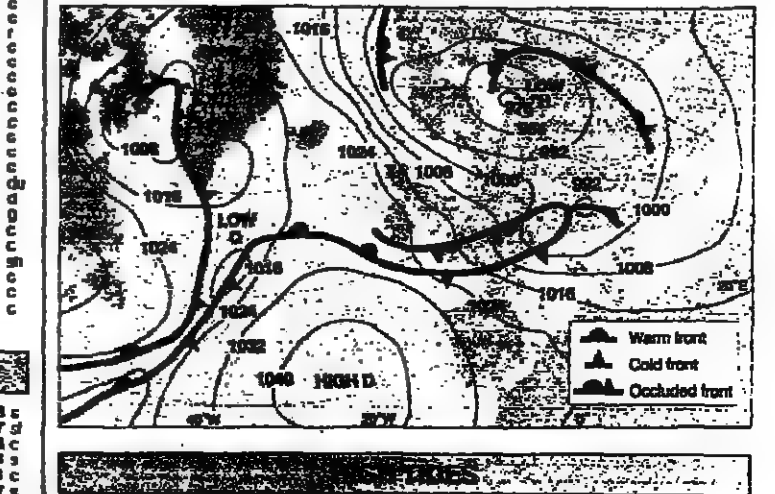
## THE QUALIFYING PUZZLE FOR THE TIMES CROSSWORD CHAMPIONSHIP, 1995, WILL APPEAR ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 19.

Times Two Crossword, page 48

## THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,749



Changes to the chart below from noon: low H will move slowly southeast; low Q will move quickly across Ireland; high D will drift slowly towards Portugal



|               | AM   | HT    | PM   | HT    |               | AM    | HT   | PM    | HT   |
|---------------|------|-------|------|-------|---------------|-------|------|-------|------|
| London        | 8.99 | 5.84  | 9.46 | 5.88  | London        | 10.27 | 4.52 | 10.56 | 4.53 |
| Aberdeen      | 8.23 | 3.56  | 9.40 | 3.61  | Aberdeen      | 8.49  | 7.17 | 7.17  | 7.25 |
| Cardiff       | 7.50 | 10.11 | 2.25 | 10.18 | Cardiff       | 7.08  | 3.83 | 7.59  | 3.87 |
| Belfast       | 6.47 | 2.80  | 7.16 | 2.81  | Belfast       | 1.24  | 5.23 | 2.03  | 5.23 |
| Edinburgh     | 1.59 | 9.32  | 2.28 | 9.37  | Edinburgh     | 0.71  | 3.02 | 1.02  | 3.07 |
| Exeter        | 0.28 | 4.29  | 1.12 | 4.27  | Exeter        | 0.49  | 2.89 | 2.17  | 2.85 |
| Dublin        | 6.35 | 5.37  | 7.23 | 5.26  | Dublin        | 0.11  | 4.26 | 0.25  | 4.30 |
| Falmouth      | 0.21 | 4.07  | 0.32 | 4.05  | Falmouth      | 1.02  | 1.49 | 1.10  | 1.35 |
| Glasgow       | 7.38 | 3.88  | 5.31 | 3.70  | Glasgow       | 6.40  | 3.97 | 7.27  | 3.73 |
| Harwich       | 7.00 | 3.22  | 7.44 | 3.23  | Harwich       | 6.29  | 4.30 | 7.04  | 4.24 |
| Holyhead      | 3.23 | 4.23  | 4.23 | 4.23  | Holyhead      | 6.29  | 4.30 | 7.04  | 4.24 |
| Hull          | 1.19 | 3.83  | 2.12 | 3.81  | Hull          | 1.23  | 7.06 | 2.10  | 7.25 |
| Manchester    | 0.28 | 6.54  | 1.43 | 6.54  | Manchester    | 11.38 | 4.21 | 11.57 | 4.25 |
| Wigan-on-Nile | 2.91 | 4.39  | 2.37 | 4.39  | Wigan-on-Nile | 7.08  | 3.25 | 7.58  | 3.20 |

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## HOMES 32

Castles in the Highlands and islands



## ARTS 39-41

Marcel Marceau and the silent army descend on London



## SPORT 42-48

Master class on the card for Honeyghan

MINIMUM WAGE? IT WON'T WORK  
Page 29

# THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 11 1995

## Girolami warned Saatchi board about Herro

By MARY MASON  
CITY EDITOR

SIR Paul Girolami, former chairman of Glaxo and a non-executive director of Saatchi & Saatchi, warned co-directors shortly before Maurice Saatchi's resignation that the board's relationship with rebel shareholders, spearheaded by David Herro, the Chicago-based fund manager, did not adhere to the principles of corporate governance. Inquiries by *The Times* reveal that Sir Paul, who was opposed to Mr Herro's demand for Mr Saatchi's resignation, delivered his warning, via fax, shortly before the eight-hour board meeting of December 16 at which Mr Saatchi quit, the company secretary, Sir Paul said that he was unhappy about the way in which "vital issues" affecting

the management and future of the company were being discussed with institutional shareholders whose only claim to "privileged treatment" was that they enjoyed a controlling vote. In his view, this was "unsound on the basis of any principle of corporate governance". Sir Paul was unable to attend Saatchi & Saatchi's crucial board meeting but made himself available, by telephone, in Rome, where he was ensconced at the Hassler Hotel. He added that "other mechanisms" are specifically laid down by statute for boards to consult shareholders. Such alternative mechanisms, he emphasised, provide "the opportunity for all shareholders to be heard". He also considered that a controlling group of shareholders do not enjoy "special rights". In an indirect reference to Mr



Saatchi board members Michael Bungey, left, Wendy Smyth and Charles Scott, acting chairman

Herro's proposals, Sir Paul recommended that the board "should not obey or react" to the demands made at the mid-December meeting, other than to abandon Mr Saatchi's share option scheme. He expressed his

preference for Saatchi & Saatchi to retain its name. On the key issue of Mr Saatchi's role, Sir Paul declared: "I believe it is against the long term interests of the company and investing shareholders to remove the

chairman." News of Sir Paul's perspective on the involvement of Mr Herro, 33, in Saatchi & Saatchi's corporate strategy will heighten calls for a detailed statement to shareholders from

Saatchi & Saatchi's directors.

In the wake of Monday's exodus of three key executives, led by the acting chairman, Jeremy Sinclair, Saatchi & Saatchi's share price fell a further 17p to an all-time low of 107p before rallying to 112p. This capitalises the agency at £246.5 million and compares with 156p before the board, led by the chief executive, Charles Scott, agreed to Mr Herro's directives. Sales by Maurice and Charles Saatchi of some 1.8 million shares, conducted early last week when Mr Saatchi severed his links with the firm, were transacted at around 138p.

Speculation mounted yesterday that a Stock Exchange inquiry into recent dealings in Saatchi & Saatchi's shares is under way. Mr Scott is to combine the role of acting chairman with that of chief executive.

## BUSINESS TODAY

### STOCK MARKET MOVEMENTS

|                 |          |          |
|-----------------|----------|----------|
| FT-SE 100       | 3080.4   | (+4.8)   |
| Yield           | 4.21%    |          |
| FT-SE All Share | 1916.56  | (+0.97)  |
| Nikkei          | 19501.45 | (+56.53) |
| New York        |          |          |
| Dow Jones       | 3880.52  | (+29.27) |
| S&P Composite   | 454.26   | (+3.43)  |

### US RATES

|               |        |          |
|---------------|--------|----------|
| Federal Funds | 6 1/8% | (5 1/8%) |
| Long Bond     | 6 5/8% | (6 1/2%) |
| Yield         | 7.88%  | (7.88%)  |

### LOAN RATES

|                   |        |          |
|-------------------|--------|----------|
| 3-month Interbank | 6 1/8% | (6 1/8%) |
| Life long gilt    | 100%   | (100%)   |
| Future (Mar)      |        |          |

### STERLING

|          |        |          |
|----------|--------|----------|
| New York | 1.5585 | (1.5585) |
| London   | 1.5578 | (1.5578) |
| DM       | 2.3923 | (2.4055) |
| FF       | 8.2800 | (8.3050) |
| SP       | 2.0074 | (2.0171) |
| Yen      | 166.40 | (165.27) |
| E Index  | 79.3   | (79.5)   |

### US DOLLAR

|         |         |          |
|---------|---------|----------|
| London  | 1.5389  | (1.5370) |
| FF      | 8.3139  | (8.3145) |
| SP      | 1.2878  | (1.2878) |
| Yen     | 100.36P | (99.90)  |
| E Index | 63.1    | (63.4)   |

### MONTHLY RATES

|                    |        |          |
|--------------------|--------|----------|
| Brant 15-day (Mar) | 816.18 | (816.18) |
|--------------------|--------|----------|

### GBP

|              |         |           |
|--------------|---------|-----------|
| London close | 8374.35 | (8372.55) |
|--------------|---------|-----------|

\* denotes midday trading price

## Trafalgar faces £60m bid fees

By NEIL BENNETT AND ERIC REGULY

TRAFALGAR House will be faced with a £60 million bill if its bid for Northern Electric succeeds, making it one of the most expensive bids the City has seen.

The potential cost of Trafalgar's £1.2 billion bid is revealed in a footnote in the company's listing particulars, published yesterday. The amount compares with the £24 million that Emmerpie paid its advisers in its failed bid for Lasso last year, which was criticised at the time for being exorbitant.

Almost half the expenses of the offer will be paid for underwriting Trafalgar's £725 million issue of convertible preference shares, one of the largest rights issues in the City since the recession. The rest will cover advisory fees to Trafalgar's merchant bank, its brokers and solicitors.

The main beneficiary of the high fees will be Swiss Bank Corporation, which is managing the transaction and convertible preference issue. Joint brokers are Cazenove and UBS while the solicitors are Linklaters & Paines.

Yesterday, a source close to Trafalgar House defended the high cost of the bid. He said that the advisory fees are all success-related and that many of the advisers will receive little or nothing if the offer fails. Trafalgar will also be able to offset the cost of the bid with the profit on the contracts for differences it holds with SBC, estimated at £8 million.

SBC has also demanded a high commission of 4 per cent for underwriting the preference share issue because it has priced the issue at a discount of only 4 per cent to the market price of Trafalgar's existing convertibles.

It is not clear if the expenses

that Trafalgar has estimated in its offer documents include the cost of a reference to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. If the bid is referred, Trafalgar may have to pay out several million pounds in legal fees as it presents its case to the MMC and will have to underwrite the share issue again if its bid is then cleared.

Northern yesterday attacked Trafalgar, saying its desire to own the utility is motivated by "financial engineering" and the potential to support a "cash-hungry conglomerate". The accusations were contained in a submission to Offer, the electricity regulator, and the Office of Fair Trading, which has the right to refer the bid to the monopolies commission. The MMC must decide soon whether to review the offer, which would lapse before it handed down its decision.

David Morris, Northern's chairman, said the bid has "everything to do with what Northern Electric and its financial strengths can bring to ailing Trafalgar House". Tax advantages are key to Trafalgar's interest in Northern, but it said it has no intention of bleeding the company. "Trafalgar is fully committed to ensuring that Northern has the financial resources to discharge its licence responsibilities," a spokesman said.

Mr Morris also attacked Trafalgar's management capability. "It is difficult to see how the owners and what the managers of the Q2E can offer," he said, referring to the ship's Christmas cruise fiasco.

Northern shares, which have fallen on fears that the MMC will get involved, climbed 1p to 98p.



Back at the helm: Lord Grade, 88, yesterday confirmed he would be returning to ITC, which he founded 40 years ago, as chairman for life

## PolyGram buys ITC for \$156m

POLYGRAM, the record and film production company best known for *Four Weddings and a Funeral*, is paying \$156 million for ITC Entertainment Group, the TV and film library founded by Lord Grade more than 40 years ago (Martin Waller writes).

ITC owns 10,000 hours of back catalogue including the TV series *Thunderbirds* and *The Prisoner*, and 350 feature films such as *Return of the Pink Panther*, *On Golden Pond* and *Sophie's Choice*.

The business also brings to PolyGram a worldwide TV distribution business, and a full-service North American syndicated TV operation, through which PolyGram hopes to sell its own products. Lord Grade, 88, rejoins ITC as chairman for life.

Jules Haimovitz, president and chief executive officer of ITC since 1993, is staying and has signed a long-term contract with PolyGram.

## Public offered 40% of generator shares

By MARTIN WALLER, DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

THE Government will direct at least two-fifths of its outstanding stake in the two big electricity generators, for sale in a £4 billion share offer this spring, towards the public.

The campaign to market the shares in National Power and the smaller PowerGen started with television and press advertising last night, after details on the offer structure were announced.

The intention is to sell all of the Government's 40 per cent holding in the two companies in a two-tier share sale that will give the retail investor a built-in discount to the price that City and international institutions will agree to pay.

The entire UK public offer will be marketed through a network of share shops run by 130 different firms and providing more than 11,000 outlets on the

nation's high streets, including 320 Argos stores.

The shares will be sold to big institutions via a tender offer that will set the price, including a discount as yet undisclosed, at which they will then go to the public. While advisers to the float say they are not bound by precedents of other privatisations, that level of discount is unlikely to differ from the 5 to 10 per cent given to the public in previous offers.

Payment is in three instalments, in different tax years. The two companies' shares are being packaged together, with three National Power shares for every two PowerGen.

Advisers to the sale have yet to decide the minimum subscription the public will have to put up, but it is likely to be between £300 and £500 each.

Pennington, page 27

## BT joins up with Viag to tap into Germany

By ERIC REGULY

BRITISH TELECOM and Viag, the German industrial group, yesterday announced a joint venture that will try to break Deutsche Telekom's stranglehold on the highly profitable German telecoms sector.

The partners said they would invest "several hundred million pounds" in the venture, Viag InterKom, over ten years. That could rise sharply if, as expected, it receives a broad telecoms licence in 1998, when Deutsche Telekom loses its voice and network monopoly.

The joint venture marks

BT's biggest step into Europe before general deregulation comes into effect. "We now view the whole of Europe as our home market and this represents BT's single largest investment outside the UK," said Sir Iain Vallance, chairman. BT shares rose 9p to 402p.

Viag InterKom, which will have its headquarters in Munich, will be owned 37.5 per cent by BT and 37.5 per cent by Viag. The remaining 25 per cent will be sold to other German partners.

Venturing abroad, page 29

## Jobs go as Athena collapses

By LIZ DOLAN

ATHENA HOLDINGS, the former posters and picture frames subsidiary of the Pentos stores group, has collapsed with the loss of up to 600 jobs.

Grant Thornton, the accountants, called in as administrative receiver on December 28, said yesterday that no acceptable offers had been received for the 157-strong chain and although deals may be done on a small number of outlets, most were to cease trading.

The receiver says it is hopeful that the franchise operation will be sold and all but one of the 30 franchise stores will remain open for the time being. The number of landlords involved in the chain was one

of the main obstacles to a sale. Grant Thornton said. Some of the 70 landlords had forced the closure of 37 Athena stores, even before the receiver decided to cease trading.

Grant Thornton was initially bullish about the chances of a sale. But yesterday, Scott Barnes, a partner in the firm, said: "Since the appointment of receivers, the team here at Grant Thornton have analysed in great detail the plethora of problems surrounding the company. The closure of the majority of the stores was perhaps inevitable given those problems, the action taken by distraught landlords and the lack of acceptable offers."

Pentos's unusual decision to

"ring fence" its subsidiary before calling in Grant Thornton has attracted criticism, especially from creditors who maintain that they had continued to deal with Athena only because of the perceived financial support offered by the parent company. The decision, although unusual, is legal, and was made possible by the uncommon degree of independence afforded to Athena by Pentos.

Bill McGrath, chief executive, has argued that the rest of the group, which includes Dilons, would have been dragged under had Athena not been put into receivership. A group trading statement is due out today.

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# BR lines up mail train business for privatisation

By ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH RAIL is inviting "expressions of interest" from companies willing to acquire Rail Express Systems, the business that runs travelling Post Office trains for Royal Mail.

The announcement suggests that RES, which has 720 staff and sales of £46 million in the year to March 1994, may become the first British Rail train operating company to be privatised.

That distinction was to have gone to Freightliner, the container distribution business. But BR announced a week ago that it was deferring the sale of Freightliner to reorganise its activities, despite having already called for and received indicative bids.

The delay in the privatisation of Freightliner may well rebound on BR and Hill Samuel, its banking adviser. Outside investors might prove reluctant to devote time and

resources to a possible purchase when the likely terms remain tentative, and rail privatisation is creating a deepening political furor.

But any potential purchaser of RES is likely to focus on its ten-year contract with the Post Office, which comes into effect in October 1996. At the moment, RES operates 61 trains a day for the Post Office's Royal Mail subsidiary, of which 24 are overnight trains on which mail is sorted en route. Among RES's assets are 161 diesel and electric locomotives, 133 travelling Post Office carriages and 400 general purpose railwagons. The company also operates rail passenger charter services and the carriage of parcels for Red Star, the BR express parcels business.

RES carries almost a quarter of Post Office letter traffic. Rod Gray, RES commercial director, said that from October next year, the Post Office

contract will provide about three-quarters of RES business. Revenues and track access charges levied by Railtrack will be guaranteed, provided performance guarantees are met.

The deal, signed a year ago, envisages an investment of £150 million by the Post Office to create a dedicated rail mail operation called Railnet. Under the plan, the Post Office is financing construction of a new station at Le Havre, in north London, where mail will be transferred from lorries and vans to trains and shipped north on a fleet of 16 electric trains. Mail will also be received from the north for distribution in the south.

Construction of the station is well advanced, while ABB Transportation, at Derby, is building the rolling stock for the service.

Although RES has lost money in the past, the Royal Mail contract has been designed to be profitable for RES, while offering advantages to the Post Office over rival methods of transport.

The Post Office declined to say whether it would like to bid for RES or operate its own trains. "We are not allowed to make an offer because of the government restrictions on what we can do," a spokesman said.

Because of intense competition from road-based overnight express parcel services, RES managers see little scope for developing the Red Star business. However, Mr Gray said there were other opportunities for expansion. "Diversification is something that RES has on its agenda," he said.

Brian Mawhinney, the Transport Secretary, is believed to be hoping that the sale of RES can be completed about the middle of this year. Advisers appear to have concluded that it is the easiest BR train operating company to sell because it is a free-standing business, backed by a profitable ten-year contract.

Unlike most BR operations, RES uses its own, dedicated drivers for most routes, and maintains its own trains in depots at Crewe, Cambridge, Bristol and London Euston. The headquarters is at Euston, but is being transferred to Crewe.



John Jackson, centre, with Konrad Johnson, left, and Jeff Hume, Howden's finance director

## Orders surge at Howden despite difficult markets

By MARTIN BARROW, CITY NEWS EDITOR

DIFFICULT market conditions in Europe failed to halt progress at Howden Group, the engineering company based in Scotland.

In the half-year to October 31, pre-tax profits rose to £10.6 million from £9.5 million and order intake was up 13 per cent at £193 million. John Jackson, chairman, and Konrad Johnson, chief executive, say the upward trend in order intake has continued into the third quarter, although market conditions remain competitive.

The operating profit of the

air and gas handling activities in Europe eased as a result of the completion of large contracts.

But order intake was steady and included the fuel gas desulphurisation fans for a power station at Le Havre and a further preheater order for a Chinese power station. US operations saw increased demand for industrial fans.

The construction and mining equipment division benefited from restructuring at Wirth, the German drilling equipment subsidiary, out-

performed with good performances from its businesses in South East Asia. Aerospace also had a strong half-year and the company said it was looking to the future with confidence.

Earnings improved to 2.5p a share from 2.2p. The interim dividend is increased to 0.85p a share from 0.82p, payable May 1. The shares fell 5p to 89p.

The company expects to see further benefits of increased volume as economic recovery develops with margin improvement.

## Lambert Howarth buys into ceramics



Robert Garfit, left, and Sir Trevor Holdsworth yesterday

LAMBERT Howarth Group, which imports footwear for Marks and Spencer and other customers, is moving into ceramic products with the acquisition of Paul Goldstone, an importer of ceramic tableware and giftware from Portugal for M&S, for a maximum consideration of £5.2 million (Martin Barrow writes).

In 1993 Goldstone earned

pre-tax profits of £537,000 on turnover of £5.47 million. Net assets were £634,000 at the end of December 1993.

Lambert Howarth, where Sir Trevor Holdsworth is chairman and Robert Garfit holds the post of managing director, has forecast profits of not less than £1.7 million before tax and promised a final dividend of 4.85p a share.

## Barclaycard on the superhighway

By SARA MCCONNELL

BARCLAYCARD has launched itself on to the information superhighway. Users of the worldwide Internet network can now receive details of the issuer's existing and planned card services, make comments and suggestions about those services and ask for application forms for new cards.

However, they will not be able to find out their balance or obtain other details of their account until security for Barclays' files on the network has been improved. Profiles customers will also have to wait to be able to exchange Profiles points for gifts over the Internet.

Barclaycard promises that it will be

impossible for other Internet users to get hold of confidential information about accounts. It says: "The system is totally separate from the computer network containing confidential information, so that unauthorised access to customers' records will be impossible."

Customers cannot pay their bills through Internet, although Barclaycard says improvements in technology may make that a possibility in future.

Only students will be able to apply for Barclaycard directly through Internet. Barclays is keen to attract students, for whom it waives the £10 annual card fee. It

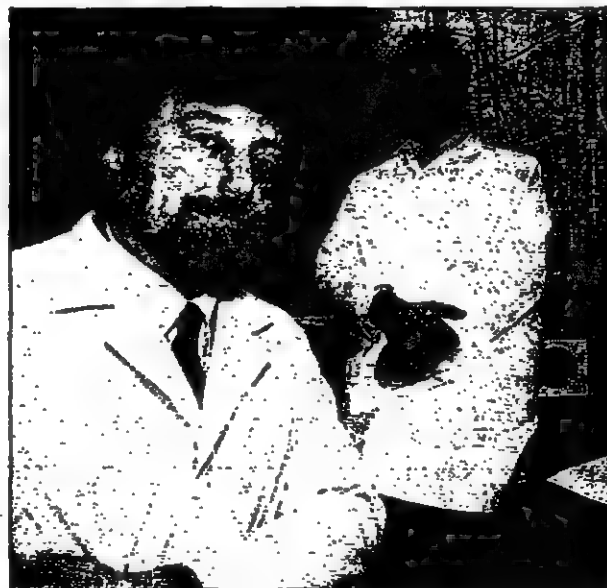
believes many students have become members of Internet through their colleges.

Barclaycard estimates that 200,000 of Internet's one million users in the UK are already Barclaycard customers.

Customers of National Westminster Bank will be able to buy or apply for a range of banking and travel policies and holidays through touch screens in NatWest branches.

The first terminal will be in NatWest's Kingston branch, with further terminals planned in Ealing and Maidstone. There will also be screens in Thomas Cook branches in Putney and Champs.

## Substantial profits rise anticipated by Treatt



Robin Mears, left, technical director, and Hugo Bovill

TREATT, the supplier, blender and distiller of essential oils and aromatic chemicals, has taken steps to ensure continuity of supplies of orange oil (Martin Barrow writes).

The moves follow a severe drought in Brazil which has affected world stocks and sent prices soaring.

Adverse weather conditions and increased demand have also affected other commodity prices, but the company still

anticipates a substantial rise in profits in the first half of the current year, said Geoffrey Bovill, Treatt's chairman.

In the year to September 30, the company, whose managing director is Hugo Bovill, increased taxable profits to £2 million from £1.5 million, lifting earnings to 14.12p a share from 12.27p. There is a final dividend of 3.4p (2.9p), payable on April 13.

## Bae wins £90m Jetstream order

BRITISH AEROSPACE has won a £90 million order for 20 aircraft to be built by its loss-making Jetstream subsidiary in Prestwick, Strathclyde. The announcement coincides with a £35 million order from China Yunnan Airlines for Rolls-Royce engines to equip three Boeing 767 airliners. The airline, a new customer for Rolls, has also taken options on a further three 767s. The BAE contract is to supply additional 29-seat Jetstream 41 regional turboprop aircraft to Atlantic Coast Airlines of the United States. Atlantic, which trades as United Express, was launch customer for the J41 in April 1993. It already has 15 of the planes. The new aircraft will be sold to JSX, BAE's US-based Jetstream fleet management company, which will lease them to the operator.

Delivery will begin this month, and will be completed in mid-1997. The sale takes total orders and options for the J41 since launch to 129, in one of the toughest market sectors. Short Brothers of Belfast, the aerospace company owned by Bombardier of Canada, is to shed 220 white-collar workers. Some may be offered jobs on the production side, where 130 more workers are needed.

## Norwich Union cuts

NORWICH Union, the insurance company, is to cut 1995 bonuses on endowment and pension policies. The company said "actual investment returns will continue to be lower throughout the 1990s than the 1980s". About 15 per cent of its £100 million of annual life and pensions premiums are linked to endowment mortgages. Norwich Union will cut bonus rates on unlinked policies for ordinary business from 7 per cent to 6.5 per cent. Conventional ordinary business policies will fall from 3 per cent to 2.5 per cent on the sum assured and from 5.5 per cent to 4.5 per cent on attaching bonuses.

## Caterer on French menu

SODEXHO, the French services group, wants to buy Gardner Merchant, the British contract catering group, for an estimated £750 million. Shares in Sodekho were suspended by the Paris bourse yesterday after the story appeared in the weekend press. The company is due to issue a statement saying that negotiations with Gardner are well advanced. Gardner, a management buyout from Forte, was due to be floated this year, but the price Sodekho is willing to pay is far above flotation estimates. Forte still owns 25 per cent and stands to make almost £190 million from the sale.

## House price optimism

A FUNDAMENTAL change in the public perception of property ownership is revealed in the latest Abbey National Housing Survey. More than two-thirds of those surveyed said that they now believed that a house was primarily a home rather than an investment. But this new realism has not stifled optimism about house prices — close to half of those who took part in the survey, conducted by MORI, believed that house prices would rise by an average 4.5 per cent over the next 12 months. Other recent surveys have predicted prices will be flat in 1995.

## Germans delay paying

LONGER payment delays by firms in Germany, Britain's biggest export market in Europe, are making life difficult for British exporters, according to a survey by NCM, the UK's leading export credit insurer. It shows that payment delays last year rose 49 per cent in Germany, traditionally one of the more disciplined countries where bad debt is concerned. Conni Randall, NCM's business strategy director, noted that other continental countries were now settling bills faster than a year ago. NCM sees a close correlation between payment delays and hiccups in German industrial production.

## M&W raises dividend

LIKE-FOR-LIKE sales rose 3.9 per cent at M&W, the convenience store operator, in the year to October 2. But new store openings helped to lift the rise in total sales by 19.9 per cent to £85.8 million and operating profits to £2.6 million from £2.3 million. However, pre-tax profits eased to £2.6 million from £2.8 million because of a decline in exceptional income. Earnings were 10.64p a share, down from 12.52p, but the total dividend rises to 3.25p a share from 3p with a 2p final, to be paid on February 24. Michael Weston, the chairman, said the company faced the future with confidence.

## Hollas loss grows

A CHARGE of £153 million against restructuring costs resulted in £1.7 million losses before tax at Hollas Group, the textiles company, in the half year to September 30, compared with a deficit of £254,000 previously. The interim is held at 0.3p, payable on April 5, in spite of losses per share of 1.07p (0.06p). Pre-exceptional profits improved to £1.05 million from £264,000, despite a £308,000 loss at Hawkehead, the company's joint venture with Kleenex Holdings. The protective clothing division was hit by the protracted industrial dispute between Railtrack and the RMT union.

## Bespak pegs payout

BESPAK, the medical products company, is holding the interim dividend at 4.2p a share in spite of a rise in pre-tax profits to £3.04 million from £2.88 million in the half year to October. Earnings were 7.9p a share, rising from 7.5p. The shares were marked 10p lower yesterday to 278p. Group turnover edged forward to £31.79 million from £31 million. UK sales fell to £9.67 million from £12.14 million, but in America they rose to £15.6 million from £14.3 million. Sales in Europe were £4.8 million (£3 million). The company expects improved sales to Glaxo in the second half.

## LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

071-782 7344

### PUBLIC NOTICES

#### CHARITY COMMISSION

NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
In pursuance of the provisions of the Companies Act 1985, notice is hereby given that the creditors of the following company are required to submit claims to the liquidator of the company by the date specified below.

#### LEGAL NOTICES

##### IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE

CHANCERY DIVISION  
IN THE MATTER OF  
MCMONAGHER SEED COMPANY LIMITED  
AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

##### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 26th day of December 1994 confirming the liquidation of the above named company was made on 26th day of December 1994.

### LEGAL NOTICES

#### FOREST GLEES LIMITED

NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
In pursuance of the provisions of the Companies Act 1985, notice is hereby given that the creditors of the following company are required to submit claims to the liquidator of the company by the date specified below.

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 26th day of December 1994 confirming the liquidation of the above named company was made on 26th day of December 1994.

#### KAYTEX TRADING COMPANY LIMITED

NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
In pursuance of the provisions of the Companies Act 1985, notice is hereby given that the creditors of the following company are required to submit claims to the liquidator of the company by the date specified below.

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 26th day of December 1994 confirming the liquidation of the above named company was made on 26th day of December 1994.

#### THE BROADBENT FILMS LIMITED

NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
In pursuance of the provisions of the Companies Act 1985, notice is hereby given that the creditors of the following company are required to submit claims to the liquidator of the company by the date specified below.

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 26th day of December 1994 confirming the liquidation of the above named company was made on 26th day of December 1994.

#### G.V.S. STORES LIMITED

NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
In pursuance of the provisions of the Companies Act 1985, notice is hereby given that the creditors of the following company are required to submit claims to the liquidator of the company by the date specified below.

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 26th day of December 1994 confirming the liquidation of the above named company was made on 26th day of December 1994.

### TOURIST RATES

|                 | Bank    | Rate    |
|-----------------|---------|---------|
| Australia \$    | 1.58    | 1.58    |
| Austria Sch     | 13.76   | 13.76   |
| Belgium Fr      | 48.28   | 48.28   |
| Canada Cdn      | 2.50    | 2.50    |
| Denmark Dkr     | 0.778   | 0.778   |
| Finland Mk      | 0.07    | 0.07    |
| France Fr       | 6.55    | 6.55    |
| Germany Dm      | 2.36    | 2.36    |
| Greece Dr       | 364.00  | 364.00  |
| Hong Kong \$    | 10.07   | 10.07   |
| India Rupee     | 1.00    | 1.00    |
| Italy Lit       | 2036.00 | 2036.00 |
| Japan Yen       | 0.017   | 0.017   |
| Netherlands Gld | 2.614   | 2.614   |
| Norway Kr       | 11.10   | 11.10   |
| Portugal Esc    | 200.00  | 200.00  |
| Spain Ptas      | 166.64  | 166.64  |
| Sweden Kr       | 11.49   | 11.49   |
| Switzerland Fr  | 2.00    | 2.00    |
| Turkey Lira     | 57.50   | 57.50   |
| USA \$          | 1.59    | 1.59    |

## Peugeot faces battle on pay

PEUGEOT is facing a pay battle with 4,000 workers at its Coventry plant in the week that the French company ordered big increases in production from its British subsidiary (Kevin Eason writes).

## THE TIMES ACCOUNTANCY AND FINANCE

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□ Generating interest in privatisation □ Labouring hard on a prospectus □ Creating a case for tax cuts

## Power to the people

□ THE Treasury yesterday unleashed another barrage of advertising on an unsuspecting British public, designed to encourage them to buy shares in this year's big sell off. The purpose of wheeling in the men in loud ties and coloured spectacles is clear: to pound potential investors into complete submission until they will gladly part with the £300 to £500 minimum investment just to get the adverts off their screens.

The sale of the Government's remaining 40 per cent stakes in National Power and PowerGen will be heralded by an erupting volcano and a tidal wave. The marketing message is unmistakable — here is your chance to own a part of two great natural disasters. At least this campaign is a less nauseating than the close runner-up — Sidney, the Singing Electricity Sock.

Artistic sensibilities aside, the sale shows the Government's increasing skill at carrying out privatisation on the cheap. The marketing campaign is expected to cost only around £8 million, far less than most others, partly because the television adverts are short and sweet.

The Treasury and its advisers are also making considerable savings on the distribution of the retail offer, by relying almost entirely on 130 share shops, including a subsidiary of Argos,

who between them command 11,000 high street sites. This allows the offer to do without a share information office and all the connected costs.

The share shops are prepared to take all the hassle of selling the Power shares to private investors for a knock-down commission of 1 per cent, even lower than the 1.1 per cent they were given in the BT3 sale. The reason is that the privatisation gives them an opportunity to sell their high-priced personal equity plan and portfolio management services. Indeed it is arguable that the share shops should pay the Government a commission for bringing two million investors through their door.

The official excuse for using share shops, that it will make things easier for investors, does not hold water. What could be easier than the old-fashioned method of cutting a coupon from your daily paper and posting it with a cheque?

Investors may be nervous about making a long-term investment at the same place that they bought their Walkman. They may also be nervous about

the whole issue, having suffered the poor performance of the BT3 shares, despite all the discounts and incentives lavished on them. BT's shares are still comfortably below BT3's 410p retail offer price, hardly a good precedent for secondary privatisations.

The British public has remained loyal to privatisations, despite being sold more than their fair share of lemons, alongside the plums like the regional electricity companies. The Treasury's financial forecasts are clearly anticipating that the investing public will be carried along by the rolling wave in the advert.

### Watching the political sparks fly

□ AS IF all that was not enough, the generators' share sale is going to have to jump over a couple more hurdles in the shape of health warnings on just what the various powers that be or might be have to say on the companies' future.

The investing public has learned to ignore chunks of

### PENNINGTON



lawyer-drafted provisos that perforce clutter up the back pages of new issue prospectuses. But those attached to the gencons may deserve more attention.

The float is likely to be the last big public issue, on the fair assumption that poor Railtrack fails to make it out of the platform before the next election, and possibly the last ever.

The companies are half-way through the two-year period given to them by the regulator to sell off 6,000 megawatts of plant, and few in the industry hold out much hope that the deadline will be met. Potential investors ought at least to be aware that if that date is indeed missed, relationships between the two and the Office of Electricity Regulation

may become a little strained. Shareholders in British Gas have a fair idea what can happen then.

Second, the advisers to the issue will have to spell out exactly what Labour in particular intends for the electricity industry. Curiously, all involved in the share sale were rather vague yesterday on just what Her Majesty's Opposition had in store, although they have promised to nail it down in time for the pathfinder prospectus at the end of this month.

A quick call to Gordon Brown's office at the Commons would clear up any confusion. Labour has proposed a windfall tax on "any excess profits made by the utilities". This includes the regional electricity companies, widely felt to be fair game after the row over executive pay, and the National Grid as well.

It also includes the generators, even if by most definitions they are not classed as utilities. Advisers were yesterday talking down the damage that a rogue Labour sound-bite, if sufficiently well-timed, might do to the marketing campaign. But no

privatisation so far has had to include the warning that some future profits might disappear if the Government changes hands.

### America's charter for wishful thinking

□ THE way America calculates its budget deficit may look an arcane detail, but isn't. There is a danger that Republicans will try to institutionalise something akin to the momentarily famous Laffer curve beloved of early Reaganites. By generalising from extreme cases, this purported to show that cuts in tax rates actually increase revenue.

Building this into a new "dynamic" budget model would somehow allow members of the new Congress to deliver the tax cuts they campaigned for while still claiming America's budget deficit would fall. The White House is competing for the same ground, pace President Clinton's proposed \$60 billion of new middle-class tax allowances.

This sounds a wonderful wheeze. The deficit, though only about 2½ per cent of national

income, is pretty high for this stage of a boom. After falling this year on present policies, it is projected to rebound from 1997.

Unfortunately, the Laffer curve illustrated a political idea, not economic relationships. Financial markets will quickly see through any such wishful thinking on the budget. So will Alan Greenspan, chairman of the Federal Reserve, as he made clear to Congress budget committees yesterday. If you want to fiddle figures, he seemed to say, it would be better to reform the consumer price index to cut index-linked rises in pensions and welfare payments.

If the Fed thinks fiscal policy is becoming more lax, it will feel it needs to compensate by making monetary policy that much tougher. Inflation is low now, but high long-term interest rates show doubts that this will last.

As Mexico's President Zedillo will testify, accelerating rises in US short-term interest rates are likely to bring unhappy consequences for other economies. The rest of the world needs America to tighten fiscal policy now, while it can, allowing more relaxed monetary policies. All eyes should therefore be on the White House's budget proposals at the end of the month, to see how much wishful thinking they contain, and how much more Congress then injects.

## Pict shares surge after rival's bid

By CARL MORTIMER

PICT PETROLEUM shares soared from 157p to 194p yesterday as the oil exploration group recommended a £102 million takeover by a rival explorer, Premier Consolidated Oilfields.

The all-paper bid, worth 197.5p, is a substantial premium to the 141p value of Pict shares in December last year when Premier revealed it was in talks to buy the 48 per cent stake in Pict held by Amerada Hess, the American oil company.

Premier is offering Pict shareholders 31 Premier shares for every four Pict shares, giving Pict holders about 46 per cent of the enlarged group. Almost a month ago, Premier told the market that its offer was unlikely to be at a premium to Pict's share price, then 141p.

Charles Jamieson, chief executive of Premier, said that the initial approach "came from Amerada, which has links with both Pict and Premier in the North Sea."

Amerada is putting cash into the new company, subscribing to up to 60 million Premier shares worth £19.8 million and taking its stake in the merged company up to 25 per cent. Analysts interpreted its subscription price of 33p a share as necessary to sell the deal to Pict shareholders.

## Jacques Vert lifts dividend

JACQUES Vert, the retailer and manufacturer of women's fashionwear, has raised its interim dividend 50 per cent after a better-than-expected trading performance lifted profits from £833,000 to £1.36 million in the half year to October 29 (Martin Barrow writes).

The shares rose 4p to 192p after an upbeat statement on current trading by Alan Green, chairman. "Our brands are continuing to perform well against the difficult retail consumer market," he said. Mr Green added that the company's two new brands, Gabriella Rossi, for shorter women, and JV by Jacques Vert, had been well received.

The interim dividend is 2.25p a share (1.5p), payable on April 6 from earnings per share that doubled to 9.6p, reflecting an improved operating result and lower tax charge.



Going for gold: Colin Smith, front, Ashanti's chief operating officer, and Sam Jonah, chief executive

## Ashanti plans \$15m expansion in Africa

ASHANTI Goldfields is embarking on an aggressive strategy of international expansion and has set aside US\$15 million for exploration across Africa. The Ghana-based group, which floated at \$1.5 billion in London last year, has created a new subsidiary, Ashanti Exploration, to prospect for gold in several African countries.

Ashanti yesterday an-

nounced a 24 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to \$112 million. Production in the year to September 30 grew by 7 per cent to 822,954 ounces at an average sale price of \$385 per ounce, slightly ahead of spot gold prices in the year, thanks to an aggressive hedging policy.

The dividend is 25 cents per share.

Tempus, page 28

## Christmas brings cheer for more companies

By GEORGE SIVELL  
ASSISTANT BUSINESS EDITOR

THREE more public companies enjoyed improved trading over Christmas and the new year.

Whitbread, the brewer, said yesterday that beer volumes were well up on last year, adding to last week's strong trading statement from Allied Domecq, the drinks group.

Peter Jarvis, the Whitbread chief executive, said Christmas and new year trading overall was ahead of last year. He added: "Trends were similar to those in the first half of the financial year, with food sales in Whitbread Inns showing the strongest growth."

However, he warned investors: "Market conditions remain patchy with sluggish sales in the Home Counties. Sales in Pizza Hut and Thresh-



James McAdam: seeking improved efficiency at Signet

er reflected the slow return of consumer confidence on the high street." The announcement made little difference to Whitbread shares, which fell 1p to 557p.

Clinton, the cards group, said its sales were up slightly in the five weeks to December 31. Trading was satisfactory and in line with the board's

year to January 29 in March.

Signet, the jewellery group formerly known as Ratner, said that pre-tax profits for the year to January 28 are likely to be comfortably ahead of the previous year.

In the 11 months to December 1994, group like-for-like sales increased by 3 per cent over the same period in 1993. In the last two months, which included the important Thanksgiving and Christmas periods, the comparable increase was also 3 per cent, the board said.

James McAdam, the executive chairman, said that the group remained focused on improving profitability through maintaining gross margins and more efficient operation. Signet shares were unchanged at 22p.

Tempus, page 28

## Profits doubled at Stakis

By MARTIN BARROW  
CITY NEWS EDITOR

STAKIS, the hotels and casinos group that almost collapsed four years ago, signalled its return to financial health yesterday by more than doubling annual profits to £20.2 million, from £9.4 million, for the year to October 2.

Sir Lewis Robertson, the company doctor appointed chairman in March 1991 as a rescue got under way, confirmed his decision to step down at the next annual meeting. His successor will be Richard Cole-Hamilton.

Sir Lewis leaves a company whose market capitalisation has recovered to £406 million, against a low point of just £63 million, with the shares at 85p, up from a 24p low. "As the numbers confirm, a lot has been achieved in these four years," he said.

In the year to October 2, pre-tax profits rose to £20.2 million (£9.4 million), with earnings rising to 4.27p (2.36p) a share. A final dividend of 0.9p a share, payable April 7, raises the total to 1.55p, from 1p.

Operating profits in the hotels division rose £4.1 million to £24.6 million and casinos by £1.6 million to £12.5 million. Pre-tax profits also benefited from a £6.5 million reduction in interest costs, to £11.8 million.

Tempus, page 28

## MDIS slides on second warning

By OUR CITY EDITOR

SHARES in McDonnell Information Systems (MDIS), floated on the stock market at 260p less than a year ago, slumped to 67p at one point yesterday after a second profit warning. The company also announced the immediate departure of its finance director.

Investors saw another £39 million wiped from the value of the company, once worth £260 million but yesterday reduced to just £67 million before the shares closed at 69p, down 37p on the day.

The first profit warning was issued in September. NatWest Wood Mackenzie and Baring Brothers, the company's joint brokers, are remaining loyal to MDIS for the time being. A brief statement from the company said full-year pre-tax profits

would be "significantly below expectations." Forecasts had previously ranged from £14.2 million to £16 million, compared with £20.7 million in 1993.

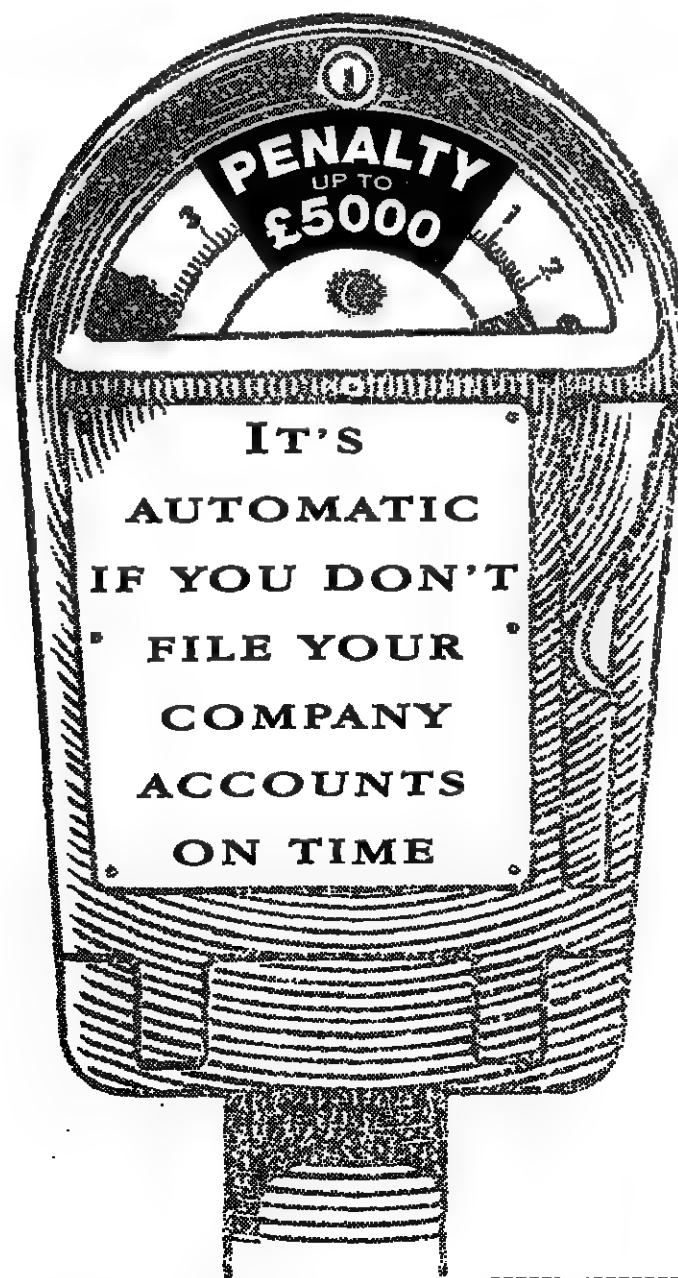
Although MDIS made a profit in the second half, the board said, trading fell short of the company's own targets, reflecting disappointing demand from the finance sector. In addition, the Xerox chess software business incurred a higher-than-expected loss of £2.5 million since its acquisition in October, and research and development costs had accelerated.

In an effort to reassure investors, the company has promised to hold the dividend at 6.25p a share for the year, equal to the pro forma dividend for 1993. The company said it continued to have a

strong working capital position and was cash-generative in the second half.

An immediate casualty of MDIS's troubles appeared to be Ian Knox, who has resigned as finance director and will be succeeded by Richard Barfield his deputy, who joined the company in September. Ian Hay Davison, chairman, and Jerry Causely, chief executive, intend to remain in their posts.

The flotation of MDIS raised £107.4 million to repay borrowings arising from the management buyout of the business from McDonnell Douglas, the American aerospace group, in 1993. The management team invested almost £1 million to acquire a 15.5 per cent interest in the company.



Are you a director of a limited company, but not sure when your Accounting Reference Date falls? You should know that you have only a certain time from this date to deliver your accounts to Companies House.

If you deliver your accounts late your company will be penalised — automatically. Delay too long and the penalty could be as much as £1000 for private limited companies and £5000 for PLC's.

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Filing on time makes sound business sense. Other companies may soon lose confidence in yours if your records aren't up to date.

Examples of some deadlines for sending private limited companies are shown below.

| Company Accounting Reference Date | Deadline for delivery to Companies House |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| 31 March 1994                     | 31 January 1995                          |
| 30 April 1994                     | 28 February 1995                         |
| 31 May 1994                       | 31 March 1995                            |

Our leaflets will help you with more detailed information on Accounting Reference Dates, Late Filing Penalties, Disclosure Requirements and so on. Return the completed coupon below for your personal copies. Or call Cardiff (01222) 380936. Do it now, and make sure you don't pay the penalty.

Post to: Marketing Section (LFP) Room 380, Companies House, FREEPOST CF 4008, Crown Way, Cardiff CF4 1ZZ. Please send the further information on avoiding late filing penalties.

Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss/Other \_\_\_\_\_ Initials \_\_\_\_\_ Surname \_\_\_\_\_

Position \_\_\_\_\_ Company \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_



COMPANIES HOUSE







# THE TIMES

## CITY DIARY

### Japan gets the yen for Rover

ROVER, whose persistent success reinforces the view that BMW, the Bavarian carmaker, picked up the British company at a bargain price, is busy conquering Japan, according to the Japanese Automobile Importers Association. Of the 23,219 vehicles Japan imported from Britain last year, almost 19,000 came from Rover, an increase of 34.5 per cent on 1993. Indeed, the familiar Viking ship logo on the front of the Rover 450, a small car, is a BMW import, to the not easily penetrated Japanese market, rose by a humble 122 per cent. Given the performance of his British subsidiary, Bernd Pischetsrieder, the BMW chief who outmanoeuvred Honda to secure Rover, can well afford an inscrutable smile.

### Warburg leavers

WHILE its fixed interest division is looking for 180 people to sack, SG Warburg has found itself with three unexpected vacancies in its media team, rated number two in the Exel annual poll of investors. Analysts Lorna Tibbani and Paul Richards are, I hear, joining rival broker Panmure Gordon together with specialist salesman Jeremy Lewis. Tibbani and Richards will be taking three months' gardening leave, while Panmure hopes to have Lewis manning a telephone by the end of this month.



### Golden fleecing

HEADS of privatised companies, who have suffered a public outcry over their high salaries and generous share option packages, may not be pleased to learn there is now a term for such financial excesses. It is "golden fleecing", according to the latest edition of Corben's *Glossary of Financial and Investment Terms*. The term is not thought to refer to Jason and the Argonauts, either. Other exotic terms include "Zateiku", a form of Japanese financial engineering, and "Purgatory and Hell", a descriptive name for a bond issue whose redemption proceeds depend on the foreign exchange value of a separate currency.

### Vikings ahoy

COULD the Norwegians, after delivering a "no" to membership of the European Union, finally be thinking of joining forces with Opec? Word from the Gulf has it that Jens Stoltenberg, Norway's youthful oil minister, has agreed with Ahmad Bin Said al-Badi, his UAE counterpart, to increase co-operation with oil producers and consumers to stabilise world prices. Yesterday he ruled out any immediate cut in Norwegian production, but left the option open for the future. Norway, whose oil output climbed to a record 280 million barrels per day last month, is set to overtake Iran this year to become the world's number two exporter behind Saudi Arabia. Norway, like Britain, has long resisted the charms of Opec's leaky cartel. However, if Oslo were to reverse its stance, the oil market might start to sit up.

COLIN NARBROUGH

# Minimum wage is no route to maximum employment

Phillip Oppenheim argues the case against setting a national base-line for rates of pay

A great deal has recently been said and written about low pay and a national minimum wage. Much of the output has come from politicians and pressure groups such as the Low Pay Unit, but Graham Searjeant's article in this paper on January 5 was especially interesting.

With Labour committed to a national minimum wage it is time to consider the real issues behind the rhetoric. There is some common ground in the debate. Regardless of political party, we all want to see sustainable improvements in the living standards of all of our people, particularly the less well-off. And of course, we all want to see a high income, high skill economy with low unemployment and low inflation. But how can we achieve that?

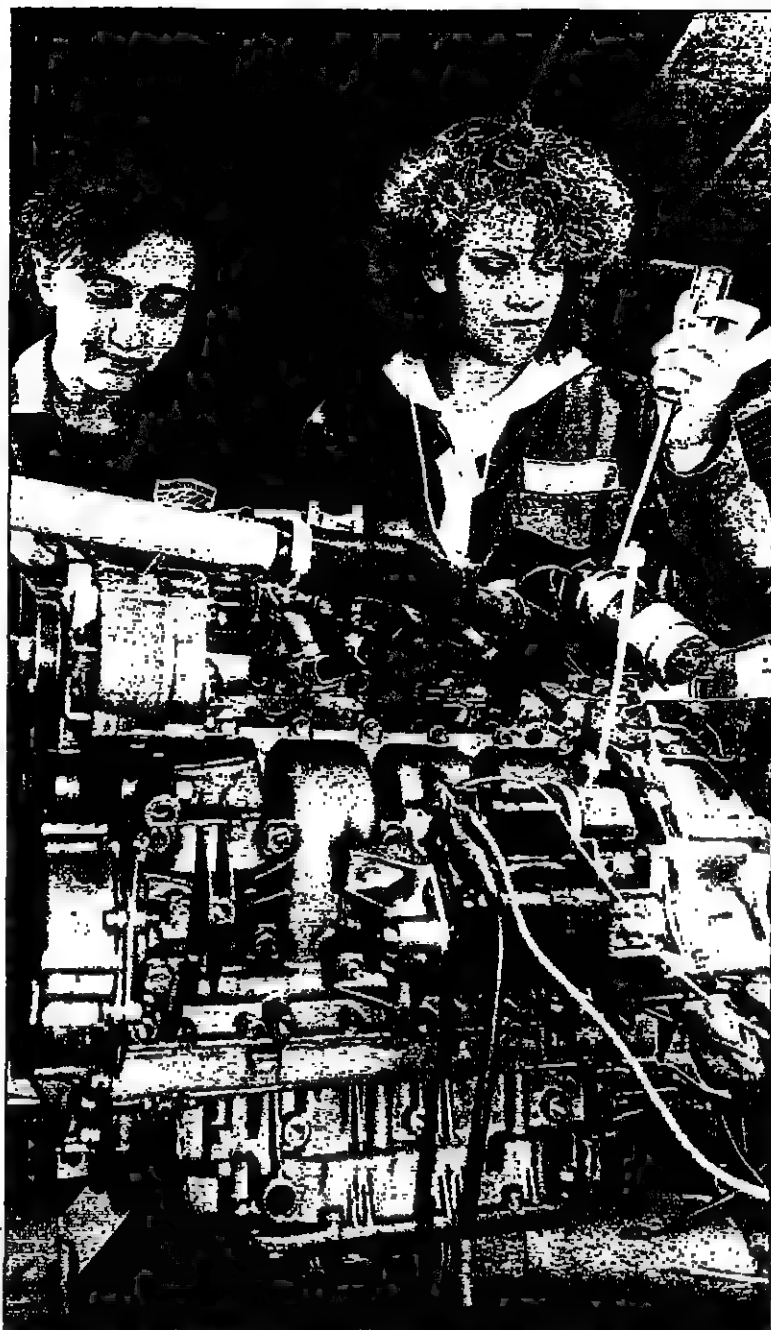
In a world where brains rather than brawn are the key to economic prosperity, it is important to educate and train people better. Hence the huge effort the Government has invested in these areas in recent years. That, allied to labour market improvements and to fiscal and monetary policies designed to produce stable, non-inflationary growth, is the best way to improve people's living standards in a sustainable way.

The most usually deployed arguments for a national minimum wage are that it would address the issue of low pay directly, and ensure that everyone in work at least got a basic level of pay; that poverty would be reduced and that there would be a fairer balance between employer and employee, with little or no effect on jobs.

In support of the latter argument, some people point to other developed countries which have minimum wage structures without any apparent ill-effect on jobs. Unfortunately, such broad-brush statements hide a multitude of problems. Take the United States, which has sustained a high level of job creation despite having a minimum wage. In fact, the federal minimum wage is set at a low level, relative to US wages. Indeed, it has not been raised at all over long periods — including the years since President Clinton came to power committed to raising the level.

The United States' better job creation record, compared with most European countries, has more to do with its more flexible labour market. Indeed the US Labour Secretary recently said he would not raise the minimum wage because it might "inadvertently dampen employment growth".

European countries such as France, Belgium and The Netherlands have minimum wages which are high relative to average earnings. But Britain achieved a faster rate of employment growth over the full economic cycle (1979-90) than those countries; and they have higher rates of



Nice work: the OECD believes minimum wages hit the young hardest

youth unemployment than the UK — nearly twice as high in France.

This, surely, is the key point. You cannot artificially raise wages for some groups of workers, regardless of productivity, without having an effect on employment levels. Study after study has backed that up, including the National Institute of Economic and Social Research, the OECD and the IMF. Even the EC Commission's own Competitiveness White Paper indicates sympathy with that view.

The OECD has concluded that minimum wages hit the young particularly hard. In a free labour market, employers may choose to take them on at lower wages to compensate for the fact that they are less productive and need training. Faced with an across-the-board minimum wage, the scope to do so is reduced.

With a minimum wage, moreover, workers higher up the pay ladder will push to restore differentials. Union leaders from Sir Gavin Laird to Bill Jordan have warned that they would expect differentials to be maintained.

Lord Hesley recently remarked: "Don't kid yourselves — the minimum wage is something on which the unions will build differentials. Therefore the minimum wage becomes a floor on which you erect a new tower." For that reason, the minimum wage was rejected by former Labour governments.

If a minimum wage in the UK were set at a level where it would have some impact, the subsequent struggle to restore differentials would destroy jobs, and lead to wage-price inflation.

Another argument used to support the minimum wage is that it is a better way of alleviating poverty than the social security system. Some people suggest that in-work benefits, such as Family Credit, make the taxpayer subsidise low wages paid by unscrupulous employers. In fact, as in-work benefits are carefully targeted on heads of household who have children to feed, comparatively few employees will receive them. Survey evidence indicates that employers do not set wages taking into account in-work benefits.

Moreover, those in lower paid

employment do not generally live in low income households. Typically, they live in households where there are other sources of income, such as another earner. In fact, nearly half of employees in the bottom 10 per cent of earnings live in households in the top half of income distribution. That is why the Institute for Fiscal Studies found that a minimum wage would help the richest 30 per cent of households more than the poorest 30 per cent.

People who are not the principal breadwinner want the chance to contribute income to the household. A minimum wage could destroy their jobs, making those households poorer; joblessness is a much more significant cause of poverty than low wages.

There is too much rhetoric about workers earning only 80p or £1 an hour. But, in fact, only 0.4 per cent of full timers and 4 per cent of part-timers earn less than £2.60 an hour.

Furthermore, despite all the talk of the widening gap between rich and poor, workers at the lower end have seen a significant real improvement in living standards since 1979. A full-time male employee in the bottom 10 per cent of earnings has seen his real take-home pay increase 23 per cent since 1979, whereas it fell under the last Labour government. Low paid women have generally seen more significant pay increases; indeed, the gap between men's and women's pay has been reduced to its lowest ever level; and, contrary to what Graham Searjeant implied, the pay of workers formerly covered by wages councils has risen faster than for other workers.

The route to sustainable, better-paid jobs lies not in increasing pay regardless of productivity, but rather in improving the productivity of the workforce through enhanced education and training, allied to monetary and fiscal policies which will provide non-inflationary economic growth. That is not a political quick-fix. It is a responsible, long-term policy designed to turn around decades of relative decline.

That we have achieved success is already indicated by the fact that while in the 1960s and 1970s Britain was bottom or near to the bottom of the league of major industrial countries in growth of manufacturing, overall output, manufacturing productivity and inflation, the 1980s were the first decade when we performed at least as well as the average, and in the case of manufacturing productivity growth as well as the best. That record has been sustained into the 1990s with record low inflation, falling unemployment and rapidly rising manufacturing output and exports.

The result has been a real improvement in earnings — at all levels — since 1979. The UK is currently the only European Union country where unemployment is below average and has fallen over the past year. We must continue to strive to improve the lot of the less well off. The minimum wage is a dangerous delusion which could blow Britain off the road to prosperity at just the time when the hard work is beginning to pay off and our prospects are so bright.

The author is Under-Secretary of State at the Department of Employment



ANTHONY HARRIS

## Through a hedge backwards

After Hammersmith Council, Procter & Gamble, Allied Lyons, and — biggest and latest — Mr Citron of Orange County, everyone knows about derivatives and their misuse. The victims start with legitimate insurance, hedging risks that they wish to avoid. Then they find they have made a profit, and fancy they have struck gold. Why stop at mere insurance? Rightly it is called Procter & Gamble (or substitute your own joke). Result: ruin. So when Metallgesellschaft was forced last September to admit that MG Refining and Marketing, Inc. (MGRM), its US subsidiary, had lost \$1.3 billion in derivatives, those who noticed simply nodded sagely. The only surprise was that the Germans had fallen for it.

However, Professor Franklin R. Edwards of Columbia University decided to look deeper, and what emerged at a London School of Economics conference before Christmas was a very different story. MGRM had not been gambling, but using what it believed was a sophisticated hedge against the risk involved in writing fixed-price energy supply contracts. The risk (rising oil prices) has not yet appeared, so the hedge proved costly. Still, low prices should mean higher profits on the supply business; at the end of the day, says Edwards, MGRM may still show a large profit. But it will be after deep disgrace, and under new management.

Three things went wrong. First, MGRM fell into a technical trap, which caused a giant cash flow problem. Second, under German (but not American) accounting rules, it had to report this deficiency as a loss; but it could not claim the profits still expected. In this accounting sense, it was bankrupt, which is against German company law, and had to be bailed. Third, nobody had advised the parent board of the inherent risk: the sack first, painful explanations later. News of the dismissals panicked its American banks, who called in loans early.

Yet it was all meant to be prudent. MGRM is mainly

in the energy business, and had a great success marketing long-term fixed-price supply contracts. It was committed to the end to supplying about 160 million barrels of gasoline and heating oil over the next ten years, at a price about \$5 a barrel more than the market price at the time of contract — a prospective profit of \$800 million if the price did not move (more at current prices). Nice business, but too risky: MGRM hedged its own exposure to rising prices in the derivatives market. There is no adequate market, though, in long oil futures: the trick could only be done by buying near oil, and rolling over.

This looked quite attractive: the market pattern, at least till MGRM came along, was for the market to be in backwardation — that is to say, that the value of contracts rose toward maturity; so the roll-over itself should be profitable.

It didn't work like that. Perhaps because the price was weak, or perhaps simply because of the scale of MGRM's buying, the market tipped into contango, with the price falling towards maturity. So the contracts were not only losers in themselves as prices fell; the rollover was expensive. And these short contracts had to be settled right away, not over the ten years of the supply agreements. The cash gap explains itself.

The moral? First, it seems inconsistent to get into the business of shouldering the risks its customers wanted to avoid (for a handsome margin) and then try to pass the parcel: the whole flow was hedged, and a bit more. Second, MGRM should have realised that it was something of an elephant in a rowing boat: the market was bound to tip under its weight. Third, the accountants should have spotted the danger of short-term losses under German rules. Above all, though, the local management should have explained everything to its parent. Sophisticated techniques are for sophisticates; otherwise, safety can be downright dangerous.

### BUSINESS LETTER

### Great news about 24-hour shopping

From Mr Clive P. Ashford Sir, I must say how much I enjoyed the front page of section 2 today (January 4). What interested me most was the article on the bottom of the page: "Shop till you drop — around the clock".

As an international tennis-teaching professional, I can spend most of my day on court from 9am-9pm — and find little time for shopping. By the time I have given my last lesson, it is too late to visit the local supermarket, which means I usually have to try to purchase the groceries during one of my lunch hours, not that I take them all the time. So it is great news for me that finally Britain is catching up with the rest of the world and heading for 24-hour shopping,

enabling persons like myself to obtain the necessary items after work.

Hopefully, on from this we will see what I would call the "total mall" experience of shopping centres with restaurants, bars and cinemas, like they do in the "States", where one can shop and not worry about cooking afterwards or indeed rushing back in time to go out, as it is all on site.

Keep up the great work you are all doing on the world's top newspaper: *The Times* — the paper's title says it all really, doesn't it!

Yours faithfully, CLIVE P. ASHFORD, Certified Tennis Coach and Racquet Technician, 115 Calvert Road, Greenwich, SE10.

### Eric Reguly reports on BT's European ambition

## Venturing into German territory

British Telecom was bubbling over with excitement yesterday when it announced it had established its mainland European beachhead through a new joint venture with Viag, the German industrial group.

The venture, known as Viag InterKom, has enormous potential. The Continent is BT's next frontier and if the company's visionaries have got it right, it will become its most important market in the next decade or so. Sir Iain Vallance, BT's chairman, said: "We now view the whole of Europe as our home market and this represents BT's single largest investment outside the UK."

But it is also possible that Viag InterKom could become an also-ran. Deutsche Telekom, the state-owned telecommunications conglomerate that will be privatised in 1996, two years before Europe's telecoms markets must be deregulated, will not give up its dominance without a fight. It currently controls about 95 per cent of the £29-billion market.

Just look at the BT example. Ten years ago, when BT was privatised, there was talk that Mercury Communications and other competitors would break its stranglehold on every segment of the telecoms business in short order. The pundits were wrong. Competition has increased, but BT, through price-cutting, innovation, improved service and sheer muscle, has managed to retain at least 85 per cent of the overall market.

"I think we will have the same experience in Germany as BT had in the UK," said Christian Erhard, spokesman in Munich for Northern Telecom, the Canadian phone-



Party line: Sir Iain Vallance now regards the whole of Europe as BT's home market

equipment group that yesterday announced an alliance with Daimler-Benz Aerospace to make switching and transmission systems.

Deutsche Telekom's own forecasts are rosy. In the year 2000, two years after it is scheduled to lose its domestic voice and network monopoly, it expects to have turnover of DM80 billion and pre-tax profits of DM12.5 billion. It expects turnover to fall by only

10 per cent, to DM72 billion, if it loses its voice and network monopoly in 1996 instead. Profits would fall to DM6.5 billion. "The role of Deutsche Telekom will be very big in either scenario," Dr Erhard said.

Deutsche Telekom is not the only threat to Viag InterKom. It faces competition from all the other partnerships that have Deutsche Telekom's plump headquarters in their

rifle sights. The German industrial conglomerate Veba, through its telecoms subsidiary Vebacom, has already served notice that it intends to become Deutsche Telekom's main rival once the entry barriers are broken down. Other powerful contenders include RWE and Preussen-Elektra, Germany's biggest electric utilities. Even the German railways have plans to find a public telecoms use for

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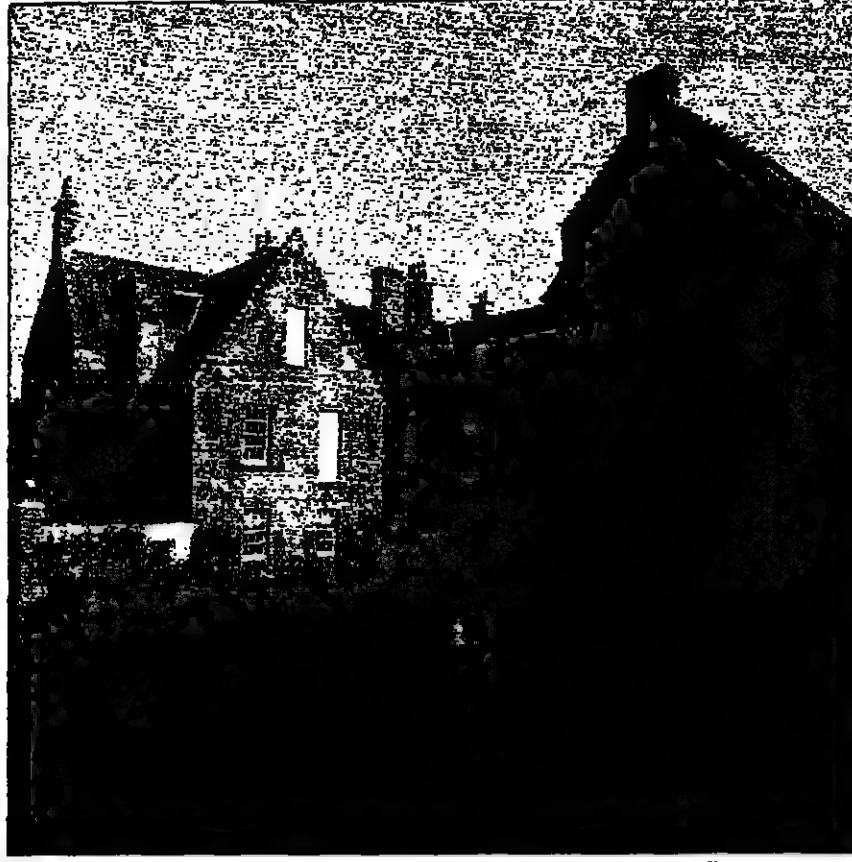
## Shares claw back early losses

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place ten business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

| High                            | Low   | Company     | Price  | Change | %     | P/E  |
|---------------------------------|-------|-------------|--------|--------|-------|------|
| <b>BANKS</b>                    |       |             |        |        |       |      |
| 100.00                          | 99.50 | Barclays    | 100.00 | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 98.50                           | 98.00 | HSBC        | 98.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 97.50                           | 97.00 | London City | 97.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 96.50                           | 96.00 | Midland     | 96.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 95.50                           | 95.00 | Natwest     | 95.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 94.50                           | 94.00 | Paragon     | 94.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 93.50                           | 93.00 | Prudential  | 93.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 92.50                           | 92.00 | Royal Bank  | 92.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 91.50                           | 91.00 | Santander   | 91.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 90.50                           | 90.00 | TSB         | 90.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| <b>DISTRIBUTORS</b>             |       |             |        |        |       |      |
| 100.00                          | 99.50 | Asda        | 100.00 | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 98.50                           | 98.00 | Debenhams   | 98.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 97.50                           | 97.00 | John Lewis  | 97.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 96.50                           | 96.00 | Next        | 96.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 95.50                           | 95.00 | Primark     | 95.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 94.50                           | 94.00 | Primark     | 94.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 93.50                           | 93.00 | Primark     | 93.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 92.50                           | 92.00 | Primark     | 92.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 91.50                           | 91.00 | Primark     | 91.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 90.50                           | 90.00 | Primark     | 90.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| <b>BREWERIES</b>                |       |             |        |        |       |      |
| 100.00                          | 99.50 | Asda        | 100.00 | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 98.50                           | 98.00 | Debenhams   | 98.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 97.50                           | 97.00 | John Lewis  | 97.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 96.50                           | 96.00 | Next        | 96.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 95.50                           | 95.00 | Primark     | 95.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 94.50                           | 94.00 | Primark     | 94.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 93.50                           | 93.00 | Primark     | 93.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 92.50                           | 92.00 | Primark     | 92.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 91.50                           | 91.00 | Primark     | 91.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 90.50                           | 90.00 | Primark     | 90.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| <b>DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS</b>  |       |             |        |        |       |      |
| 100.00                          | 99.50 | Asda        | 100.00 | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 98.50                           | 98.00 | Debenhams   | 98.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 97.50                           | 97.00 | John Lewis  | 97.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 96.50                           | 96.00 | Next        | 96.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 95.50                           | 95.00 | Primark     | 95.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 94.50                           | 94.00 | Primark     | 94.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 93.50                           | 93.00 | Primark     | 93.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 92.50                           | 92.00 | Primark     | 92.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 91.50                           | 91.00 | Primark     | 91.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 90.50                           | 90.00 | Primark     | 90.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| <b>BUILDING &amp; CONSTRUCT</b> |       |             |        |        |       |      |
| 100.00                          | 99.50 | Asda        | 100.00 | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 98.50                           | 98.00 | Debenhams   | 98.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 97.50                           | 97.00 | John Lewis  | 97.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 96.50                           | 96.00 | Next        | 96.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 95.50                           | 95.00 | Primark     | 95.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 94.50                           | 94.00 | Primark     | 94.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 93.50                           | 93.00 | Primark     | 93.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 92.50                           | 92.00 | Primark     | 92.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 91.50                           | 91.00 | Primark     | 91.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 90.50                           | 90.00 | Primark     | 90.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| <b>ENGINEERING, VEHICLES</b>    |       |             |        |        |       |      |
| 100.00                          | 99.50 | Asda        | 100.00 | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 98.50                           | 98.00 | Debenhams   | 98.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 97.50                           | 97.00 | John Lewis  | 97.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 96.50                           | 96.00 | Next        | 96.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 95.50                           | 95.00 | Primark     | 95.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 94.50                           | 94.00 | Primark     | 94.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 93.50                           | 93.00 | Primark     | 93.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 92.50                           | 92.00 | Primark     | 92.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 91.50                           | 91.00 | Primark     | 91.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 90.50                           | 90.00 | Primark     | 90.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| <b>FOOD MANUFACTURERS</b>       |       |             |        |        |       |      |
| 100.00                          | 99.50 | Asda        | 100.00 | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 98.50                           | 98.00 | Debenhams   | 98.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 97.50                           | 97.00 | John Lewis  | 97.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 96.50                           | 96.00 | Next        | 96.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 95.50                           | 95.00 | Primark     | 95.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 94.50                           | 94.00 | Primark     | 94.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 93.50                           | 93.00 | Primark     | 93.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 92.50                           | 92.00 | Primark     | 92.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 91.50                           | 91.00 | Primark     | 91.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 90.50                           | 90.00 | Primark     | 90.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| <b>ELECTRICITY</b>              |       |             |        |        |       |      |
| 100.00                          | 99.50 | Asda        | 100.00 | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 98.50                           | 98.00 | Debenhams   | 98.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 97.50                           | 97.00 | John Lewis  | 97.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 96.50                           | 96.00 | Next        | 96.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 95.50                           | 95.00 | Primark     | 95.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 94.50                           | 94.00 | Primark     | 94.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 93.50                           | 93.00 | Primark     | 93.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 92.50                           | 92.00 | Primark     | 92.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 91.50                           | 91.00 | Primark     | 91.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 90.50                           | 90.00 | Primark     | 90.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| <b>ELECTRONIC &amp; ELECT</b>   |       |             |        |        |       |      |
| 100.00                          | 99.50 | Asda        | 100.00 | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 98.50                           | 98.00 | Debenhams   | 98.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 97.50                           | 97.00 | John Lewis  | 97.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 96.50                           | 96.00 | Next        | 96.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 95.50                           | 95.00 | Primark     | 95.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 94.50                           | 94.00 | Primark     | 94.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 93.50                           | 93.00 | Primark     | 93.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 92.50                           | 92.00 | Primark     | 92.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 91.50                           | 91.00 | Primark     | 91.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 90.50                           | 90.00 | Primark     | 90.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| <b>BUILDING MATERIALS</b>       |       |             |        |        |       |      |
| 100.00                          | 99.50 | Asda        | 100.00 | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 98.50                           | 98.00 | Debenhams   | 98.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 97.50                           | 97.00 | John Lewis  | 97.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 96.50                           | 96.00 | Next        | 96.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 95.50                           | 95.00 | Primark     | 95.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 94.50                           | 94.00 | Primark     | 94.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 93.50                           | 93.00 | Primark     | 93.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 92.50                           | 92.00 | Primark     | 92.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 91.50                           | 91.00 | Primark     | 91.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 90.50                           | 90.00 | Primark     | 90.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| <b>HOUSEHOLD GOODS</b>          |       |             |        |        |       |      |
| 100.00                          | 99.50 | Asda        | 100.00 | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 98.50                           | 98.00 | Debenhams   | 98.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 97.50                           | 97.00 | John Lewis  | 97.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 96.50                           | 96.00 | Next        | 96.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 95.50                           | 95.00 | Primark     | 95.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 94.50                           | 94.00 | Primark     | 94.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 93.50                           | 93.00 | Primark     | 93.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 92.50                           | 92.00 | Primark     | 92.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 91.50                           | 91.00 | Primark     | 91.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 90.50                           | 90.00 | Primark     | 90.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| <b>INSURANCE</b>                |       |             |        |        |       |      |
| 100.00                          | 99.50 | Asda        | 100.00 | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 98.50                           | 98.00 | Debenhams   | 98.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 97.50                           | 97.00 | John Lewis  | 97.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 96.50                           | 96.00 | Next        | 96.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 95.50                           | 95.00 | Primark     | 95.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 94.50                           | 94.00 | Primark     | 94.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 93.50                           | 93.00 | Primark     | 93.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 92.50                           | 92.00 | Primark     | 92.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 91.50                           | 91.00 | Primark     | 91.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 90.50                           | 90.00 | Primark     | 90.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| <b>BUSINESS SERVICES</b>        |       |             |        |        |       |      |
| 100.00                          | 99.50 | Asda        | 100.00 | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 98.50                           | 98.00 | Debenhams   | 98.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 97.50                           | 97.00 | John Lewis  | 97.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 96.50                           | 96.00 | Next        | 96.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 95.50                           | 95.00 | Primark     | 95.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 94.50                           | 94.00 | Primark     | 94.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 93.50                           | 93.00 | Primark     | 93.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 92.50                           | 92.00 | Primark     | 92.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 91.50                           | 91.00 | Primark     | 91.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 90.50                           | 90.00 | Primark     | 90.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| <b>CHEMICALS</b>                |       |             |        |        |       |      |
| 100.00                          | 99.50 | Asda        | 100.00 | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 98.50                           | 98.00 | Debenhams   | 98.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 97.50                           | 97.00 | John Lewis  | 97.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 96.50                           | 96.00 | Next        | 96.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 95.50                           | 95.00 | Primark     | 95.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 94.50                           | 94.00 | Primark     | 94.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 93.50                           | 93.00 | Primark     | 93.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 92.50                           | 92.00 | Primark     | 92.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 91.50                           | 91.00 | Primark     | 91.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 90.50                           | 90.00 | Primark     | 90.50  | +0.50  | +0.5% | 10.5 |

| 1999 Low Company Price +/- % P/E |       |            |        |       |       |      | 1999 Low Company Price +/- % P/E |       |            |        |       |       |      | 1999 Low Company Price +/- % P/E |       |            |        |       |       |      | 1999 Low Company Price +/- % P/E |       |            |        |       |       |      |
|----------------------------------|-------|------------|--------|-------|-------|------|----------------------------------|-------|------------|--------|-------|-------|------|----------------------------------|-------|------------|--------|-------|-------|------|----------------------------------|-------|------------|--------|-------|-------|------|
| 100.00                           | 99.50 | Asda       | 100.00 | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 100.00                           | 99.50 | Asda       | 100.00 | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 100.00                           | 99.50 | Asda       | 100.00 | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 100.00                           | 99.50 | Asda       | 100.00 | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 98.50                            | 98.00 | Debenhams  | 98.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 98.50                            | 98.00 | Debenhams  | 98.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 98.50                            | 98.00 | Debenhams  | 98.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 98.50                            | 98.00 | Debenhams  | 98.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 97.50                            | 97.00 | John Lewis | 97.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 97.50                            | 97.00 | John Lewis | 97.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 97.50                            | 97.00 | John Lewis | 97.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 97.50                            | 97.00 | John Lewis | 97.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 96.50                            | 96.00 | Next       | 96.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 96.50                            | 96.00 | Next       | 96.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 96.50                            | 96.00 | Next       | 96.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 96.50                            | 96.00 | Next       | 96.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 95.50                            | 95.00 | Primark    | 95.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 95.50                            | 95.00 | Primark    | 95.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 95.50                            | 95.00 | Primark    | 95.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 95.50                            | 95.00 | Primark    | 95.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 94.50                            | 94.00 | Primark    | 94.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 94.50                            | 94.00 | Primark    | 94.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 94.50                            | 94.00 | Primark    | 94.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 94.50                            | 94.00 | Primark    | 94.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 93.50                            | 93.00 | Primark    | 93.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 93.50                            | 93.00 | Primark    | 93.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 93.50                            | 93.00 | Primark    | 93.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 93.50                            | 93.00 | Primark    | 93.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 92.50                            | 92.00 | Primark    | 92.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 92.50                            | 92.00 | Primark    | 92.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 92.50                            | 92.00 | Primark    | 92.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 92.50                            | 92.00 | Primark    | 92.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 91.50                            | 91.00 | Primark    | 91.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 91.50                            | 91.00 | Primark    | 91.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 91.50                            | 91.00 | Primark    | 91.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 91.50                            | 91.00 | Primark    | 91.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 90.50                            | 90.00 | Primark    | 90.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 90.50                            | 90.00 | Primark    | 90.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 90.50                            | 90.00 | Primark    | 90.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 90.50                            | 90.00 | Primark    | 90.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| <b>PHARMACEUTICALS</b>           |       |            |        |       |       |      | <b>PHARMACEUTICALS</b>           |       |            |        |       |       |      | <b>PHARMACEUTICALS</b>           |       |            |        |       |       |      | <b>PHARMACEUTICALS</b>           |       |            |        |       |       |      |
| 100.00                           | 99.50 | Asda       | 100.00 | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 100.00                           | 99.50 | Asda       | 100.00 | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 100.00                           | 99.50 | Asda       | 100.00 | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 100.00                           | 99.50 | Asda       | 100.00 | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 98.50                            | 98.00 | Debenhams  | 98.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 98.50                            | 98.00 | Debenhams  | 98.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 98.50                            | 98.00 | Debenhams  | 98.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 98.50                            | 98.00 | Debenhams  | 98.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 97.50                            | 97.00 | John Lewis | 97.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 97.50                            | 97.00 | John Lewis | 97.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 97.50                            | 97.00 | John Lewis | 97.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 97.50                            | 97.00 | John Lewis | 97.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 96.50                            | 96.00 | Next       | 96.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 96.50                            | 96.00 | Next       | 96.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 96.50                            | 96.00 | Next       | 96.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 96.50                            | 96.00 | Next       | 96.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 95.50                            | 95.00 | Primark    | 95.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 95.50                            | 95.00 | Primark    | 95.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 95.50                            | 95.00 | Primark    | 95.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 95.50                            | 95.00 | Primark    | 95.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 94.50                            | 94.00 | Primark    | 94.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 94.50                            | 94.00 | Primark    | 94.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 94.50                            | 94.00 | Primark    | 94.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 94.50                            | 94.00 | Primark    | 94.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 93.50                            | 93.00 | Primark    | 93.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 93.50                            | 93.00 | Primark    | 93.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 93.50                            | 93.00 | Primark    | 93.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 93.50                            | 93.00 | Primark    | 93.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 92.50                            | 92.00 | Primark    | 92.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 92.50                            | 92.00 | Primark    | 92.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 92.50                            | 92.00 | Primark    | 92.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 92.50                            | 92.00 | Primark    | 92.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 91.50                            | 91.00 | Primark    | 91.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 91.50                            | 91.00 | Primark    | 91.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 91.50                            | 91.00 | Primark    | 91.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 91.50                            | 91.00 | Primark    | 91.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 90.50                            | 90.00 | Primark    | 90.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 90.50                            | 90.00 | Primark    | 90.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 90.50                            | 90.00 | Primark    | 90.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 90.50                            | 90.00 | Primark    | 90.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| <b>PRINTING &amp; PAPER</b>      |       |            |        |       |       |      | <b>PRINTING &amp; PAPER</b>      |       |            |        |       |       |      | <b>PRINTING &amp; PAPER</b>      |       |            |        |       |       |      | <b>PRINTING &amp; PAPER</b>      |       |            |        |       |       |      |
| 100.00                           | 99.50 | Asda       | 100.00 | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 100.00                           | 99.50 | Asda       | 100.00 | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 100.00                           | 99.50 | Asda       | 100.00 | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 100.00                           | 99.50 | Asda       | 100.00 | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 98.50                            | 98.00 | Debenhams  | 98.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 98.50                            | 98.00 | Debenhams  | 98.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 98.50                            | 98.00 | Debenhams  | 98.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 98.50                            | 98.00 | Debenhams  | 98.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 97.50                            | 97.00 | John Lewis | 97.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 97.50                            | 97.00 | John Lewis | 97.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 97.50                            | 97.00 | John Lewis | 97.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 97.50                            | 97.00 | John Lewis | 97.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 96.50                            | 96.00 | Next       | 96.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 96.50                            | 96.00 | Next       | 96.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 96.50                            | 96.00 | Next       | 96.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 96.50                            | 96.00 | Next       | 96.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 95.50                            | 95.00 | Primark    | 95.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 95.50                            | 95.00 | Primark    | 95.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 95.50                            | 95.00 | Primark    | 95.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 95.50                            | 95.00 | Primark    | 95.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 94.50                            | 94.00 | Primark    | 94.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 94.50                            | 94.00 | Primark    | 94.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 94.50                            | 94.00 | Primark    | 94.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 94.50                            | 94.00 | Primark    | 94.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 93.50                            | 93.00 | Primark    | 93.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 93.50                            | 93.00 | Primark    | 93.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 93.50                            | 93.00 | Primark    | 93.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 93.50                            | 93.00 | Primark    | 93.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 92.50                            | 92.00 | Primark    | 92.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 92.50                            | 92.00 | Primark    | 92.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 92.50                            | 92.00 | Primark    | 92.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 92.50                            | 92.00 | Primark    | 92.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 91.50                            | 91.00 | Primark    | 91.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 91.50                            | 91.00 | Primark    | 91.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 91.50                            | 91.00 | Primark    | 91.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 91.50                            | 91.00 | Primark    | 91.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 90.50                            | 90.00 | Primark    | 90.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 90.50                            | 90.00 | Primark    | 90.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 90.50                            | 90.00 | Primark    | 90.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 90.50                            | 90.00 | Primark    | 90.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| <b>PHARMACEUTICALS</b>           |       |            |        |       |       |      | <b>PHARMACEUTICALS</b>           |       |            |        |       |       |      | <b>PHARMACEUTICALS</b>           |       |            |        |       |       |      | <b>PHARMACEUTICALS</b>           |       |            |        |       |       |      |
| 100.00                           | 99.50 | Asda       | 100.00 | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 100.00                           | 99.50 | Asda       | 100.00 | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 100.00                           | 99.50 | Asda       | 100.00 | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 100.00                           | 99.50 | Asda       | 100.00 | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 98.50                            | 98.00 | Debenhams  | 98.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 98.50                            | 98.00 | Debenhams  | 98.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 98.50                            | 98.00 | Debenhams  | 98.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 98.50                            | 98.00 | Debenhams  | 98.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 97.50                            | 97.00 | John Lewis | 97.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 97.50                            | 97.00 | John Lewis | 97.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 97.50                            | 97.00 | John Lewis | 97.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 97.50                            | 97.00 | John Lewis | 97.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 96.50                            | 96.00 | Next       | 96.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 96.50                            | 96.00 | Next       | 96.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 96.50                            | 96.00 | Next       | 96.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 96.50                            | 96.00 | Next       | 96.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 95.50                            | 95.00 | Primark    | 95.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 95.50                            | 95.00 | Primark    | 95.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 95.50                            | 95.00 | Primark    | 95.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 95.50                            | 95.00 | Primark    | 95.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 94.50                            | 94.00 | Primark    | 94.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 94.50                            | 94.00 | Primark    | 94.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 94.50                            | 94.00 | Primark    | 94.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 94.50                            | 94.00 | Primark    | 94.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 93.50                            | 93.00 | Primark    | 93.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 93.50                            | 93.00 | Primark    | 93.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 93.50                            | 93.00 | Primark    | 93.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 93.50                            | 93.00 | Primark    | 93.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 92.50                            | 92.00 | Primark    | 92.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 92.50                            | 92.00 | Primark    | 92.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 92.50                            | 92.00 | Primark    | 92.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 92.50                            | 92.00 | Primark    | 92.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 91.50                            | 91.00 | Primark    | 91.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 91.50                            | 91.00 | Primark    | 91.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 91.50                            | 91.00 | Primark    | 91.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 91.50                            | 91.00 | Primark    | 91.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 90.50                            | 90.00 | Primark    | 90.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 90.50                            | 90.00 | Primark    | 90.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 90.50                            | 90.00 | Primark    | 90.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 90.50                            | 90.00 | Primark    | 90.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| <b>PRINTING &amp; PAPER</b>      |       |            |        |       |       |      | <b>PRINTING &amp; PAPER</b>      |       |            |        |       |       |      | <b>PRINTING &amp; PAPER</b>      |       |            |        |       |       |      | <b>PRINTING &amp; PAPER</b>      |       |            |        |       |       |      |
| 100.00                           | 99.50 | Asda       | 100.00 | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 100.00                           | 99.50 | Asda       | 100.00 | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 100.00                           | 99.50 | Asda       | 100.00 | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 100.00                           | 99.50 | Asda       | 100.00 | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 98.50                            | 98.00 | Debenhams  | 98.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 98.50                            | 98.00 | Debenhams  | 98.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 98.50                            | 98.00 | Debenhams  | 98.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 98.50                            | 98.00 | Debenhams  | 98.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 97.50                            | 97.00 | John Lewis | 97.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 97.50                            | 97.00 | John Lewis | 97.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 97.50                            | 97.00 | John Lewis | 97.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 97.50                            | 97.00 | John Lewis | 97.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 96.50                            | 96.00 | Next       | 96.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 96.50                            | 96.00 | Next       | 96.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 96.50                            | 96.00 | Next       | 96.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 96.50                            | 96.00 | Next       | 96.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 95.50                            | 95.00 | Primark    | 95.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 95.50                            | 95.00 | Primark    | 95.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 95.50                            | 95.00 | Primark    | 95.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 95.50                            | 95.00 | Primark    | 95.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 94.50                            | 94.00 | Primark    | 94.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 94.50                            | 94.00 | Primark    | 94.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 94.50                            | 94.00 | Primark    | 94.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 94.50                            | 94.00 | Primark    | 94.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 |
| 93.50                            | 93.00 | Primark    | 93.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 93.50                            | 93.00 | Primark    | 93.50  | +0.50 | +0.5% | 10.5 | 93.50                            | 93.00 | Primark    | 93.50  | +0.50 |       |      |                                  |       |            |        |       |       |      |





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Superb right-hand is sought by the head of a large international company. Working closely with the President your input is vital to the smooth running of his exceptionally busy schedule. You will use the experience you have gained in senior secretarial roles to provide the level of support he requires. With help from your own junior secretary you will be handling large volumes of paperwork, travel arrangements, presentation material and also maintaining the high standards already set in this professionally run office. Commitment, hard work and a meticulous approach to the varied problems you will undertake is essential. Skills 100/60 audio/computer literacy. Age 30-45. Please call Virginia Wancher on 071 434-4512.

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Thinking ahead and using your initiative are key skills for a great team secretarial job in friendly financial department of a well known plc. You will be working for the Director of Finance who has a reputation for being an excellent boss, and his team of three who are fun and enjoy their work. Duties include managing correspondence, maintaining diary for the department and preparation of papers and reports (including figure typing). Good shorthand, Wordperfect 5.1 and Lotus 123. Age 25-40. Please call Virginia Wancher on 071 434-4512.

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Our client is amongst the world's largest and most experienced international organisations dedicated to entrepreneurial business. The chairman is looking for a committed, professional PA whose secretarial organisational skills are second to none. You will be totally involved - dealing at the highest levels, liaising with VIPS and handling personal matters. A responsible and mature approach as well as your loyalty and discretion are of paramount importance. Financial experience a benefit. Age 25-35. Skills: 90/60/knowledge of a Windows package. Please call Jane Shepherd on 071 434-4512.

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Several of our prestigious clients, situated in the West End, are looking for confident, enthusiastic and well presented receptionists. Do you enjoy a front line role - meeting and greeting clients, dealing with incoming calls and enquiries and generally helping out in a professional and busy environment? If you have some typing skills and at least one year's experience please call Fiona Mackay on 071 434 4512.

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#### "In Search of Excellence"

Based in fabulous Mayfair offices, this prestigious Executive Search firm requires a bright, confident PA to support a dynamic Director. This firm is one of the most successful in its field with offices throughout the world. You must be switched on, capable and well organised as you liaise with clients and act as a first point of contact for the company. You must be quick to learn, able to use your own initiative when handling queries arising during the selection process. You will be relied upon and delegated to extensively by your boss and with two bonuses a year as well as pension, PPP, STL and free weekly holiday, you will be well rewarded for your efforts. Call Sarah on 071 225 1888.

VICTORIA WALL ASSOCIATES

### WA c£30,000

#### Proactive PA

This is probably one of the most demanding and challenging PA roles you are likely to see advertised... Working for a high profile Managing Director of a prestigious investment bank, your responsibilities will reflect his role and therefore be diverse and unpredictable. You must have a minimum of 5 years Director level experience, excellent shorthand and typing and a sound knowledge of word for windows and spreadsheets. All aspects of office administration and diary and meeting organisation will be delegated to you, in addition to extensive international liaison and the preparation of board reports and presentations. A calm, energetic and self motivated individual who has the resilience to cope with the commitment and the dedication to work long hours is required to work in this high profile and confidential role. Please call Victoria Wall on 071 225 1888.

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#### "Tempting Tempting in Town"

Are you between permanent jobs and wanting to earn some money or do you just enjoy the variety tempting offers you? If you have 60wpm + typing, professional secretarial work experience and an in-depth knowledge of any Windows package and spreadsheets or graphics packages, then come and join our team. We urgently need flexible and professional secretaries, aged between 22-35, as we have lots of challenging and well-paid assignments working in lively and young companies in the West End and the City. You will have the opportunity to work overtime in short or long term assignments. Call Lucy or Amanda to hear more about what we have to offer on 071 225 1888.

VICTORIA WALL ASSOCIATES

### PA/ACCOUNT HANDLER

c£15,000

West End Fine Art Dealers

Young and expanding insurance broking company specialising in fine art, jewellery and high net worth individuals, situated in modern offices in Sloane Street require bright and enthusiastic PA to join small team and learn broking skills. Duties will include client liaison therefore applicants must be extremely personable and have very confident telephone manner. Accurate typing skills essential and experience of Words for Windows preferred. Age 22-28.

Apply in writing enclosing covering letter and CV to Managing Director, Burke Fine Art & Jewellery Limited, 134 Sloane Street London SW1X 9AY.

### PA/SECRETARIES

We require two enthusiastic PA/Secretaries with exceptional secretarial skills one as a permanent secretary and the other to work evenings and Sundays for our Chairman on 'an as and when required basis'. The applicants should be experienced, have a Property or Legal background and a good command of the English Language. Must have 80 wpm typing speed Windows/Wordperfect 6.0b. Non Smoker. Salary more than is available.

Only those with undoubted competence should apply sending CV to Box No 2853, C/O The Times Newspapers, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9BL.

### POWERPOINT SECRETARY

Luxury Plo - W1 £16,500

Could you look after the heads of Corporate Affairs and Communications? These charming overworked executives dream of a secretary to organise their lives. Experience of Word for Windows and some graphics essential. Tell enough order for you?

#### MARKETING

Shorthand Secretary City £17,000 + benefits. Are you a graphics whizz? Fabulous opportunity to get your creative juices flowing. If you can look after 3 busy executives, prepare presentations, organise diaries, travel and expenses, and out-going and bright, with good shorthand call for more information.

### STUCK IN A RUT?

Competitive City Banking Packages. Fed up with the same old routine? Why stay when there are other banks who can offer you interesting and rewarding positions in a variety of areas including personal, legal, trading floor and support services. Knowledge of Word for Windows, Excel and PowerPoint are essential, with shorthand being an advantage.

### SENIOR PA

Insurance City £22,000

Are you a senior PA with solid 1:1 experience, who is looking for an involved, responsible role with lots of international client contact? You must have 100 wpm shorthand, ideally have financial experience and be aged between 25-35.

#### LOADS OF MONEY

Shortland City Secretary £18,000 + lots of overtime + benefits. Is your New Year resolution to make lots of money as quickly as possible? Top merchant bank will help you fill the coffers. If you have 90 wpm shorthand, 80 wpm typing, Word for Windows, and you have the stamina to work in a dynamic environment - send us your CV.

**PAN EUROPEAN RECRUITMENT** Please call us on 0171-734 8484

**HUMAN RESOURCES** £16k + bonus. Work at director level in the personnel & a bit more buzz, we have a fabulous job as PA to 2 directors in Financial PR. They are responsible for developing new business and you will get totally involved in all projects, research, press conferences etc. You must be prepared for meeting top level clients and have 60wpm & WP 5.1 exp.

**LONG TERM TEMPS!** You will earn TOP RATES working in MAJOR COMPANIES - plus enjoy the support of a professional, committed team. All you need are excellent skills (including Windows or DTP) and a flexible approach. Phone Felicity Fowd at Tate Appointments on 071 488 8424.

**EXECUTIVE CHALLENGE** £19k + Bank bonus. A career oriented PA with first rate skills (100/60) will thrive with this leading merchant bank. Proactive and able to think on your feet, you can develop the role using your flair for admin. Banking exp & Windows skills essential. Call Jane Connolly at Tate Appointments on 071 488 8424.

**TOP PA/ADMINISTRATOR** Rapid rise private American household, SW1. Should be 30-40, non-smoker, driver, speak good French, smart, well spoken. A Level or graduate. Duties include travel arrangements, secretarial support, all social and domestic admin. Salary £23,000+. Ring 071 935 9692.

Career Opportunities

### Senior Administrator & Personal Assistant To Managing Director

Central London

Nothing less than total commitment and professionalism will meet the demands of this high profile position. Your first class skills will be the result of first class experience at a similar level in a fast paced, Total Quality commercial environment.

Articulate and calm even in the most demanding circumstances, you will take great pleasure in the organisation of, and total involvement in, all our company activities. You will be mature, motivated and flexible with administrative support of your own.

You will find all forms of communication effortless although a degree in English or equivalent will be a help with the volume and variety of written correspondence.

We offer an excellent salary and benefits package to match your skills and experience.

To apply, please send your CV with a covering letter to: Jella March, Manpower Plc, 1 Epsom Road, London W1R 9BA. Telephone 071 493 8668.

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Secretarial Recruitment Consultants

### SIGN OF THE TIMES

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- \* Reception
- \* Team Secretarial

With opportunities in Management Consultancies, Marketing, Fashion, and Finance - for both permanent and temporary work, now is the time to call the Times.

For further information and immediate interview, call Debbie Smith now on 0171 831 8936 or fax your CV on 0171 430 9111.

### ANDERSON HOARE

#### Fed up with Corporate Finance!

£18,000 + gt perks

If you have corporate finance exp & would enjoy better hours & a bit more buzz, we have a fabulous job as PA to 2 directors in Financial PR. They are responsible for developing new business and you will get totally involved in all projects, research, press conferences etc. You must be prepared for meeting top level clients and have 60wpm & WP 5.1 exp.

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### ANDERSON HOARE

#### Three perfect Opportunities

College Leavers/ 2nd Jobbers £12,500 - £13,000

1. Top fashion firm, W1. Needs friendly, wpc people to main fashion sales. Excellent Manager. Or full job for exp. See ideally 071 488 8424.
2. City, Financial PR to offer perfect job for budding career exp. Along with 60 wpm, excellent shorthand, must be well educated with 20wpm & WP 5.1 exp.
3. Charming entrepreneurial prop on good young firm to join their growing team. Must enjoy & have good knowledge in WP (60wpm).

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### ANDERSON HOARE

#### Entertainment Co.

c£13,500

This small young, fun, dynamic entertainment co. (radio, tv, publishing) needs a bright, flexible, outgoing receptionist to look after them. Fabulous office and a great team of people. Along with running a busy telephone system you will undertake office management duties and help out with overbooked typing using MS44/4/97.

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### ANDERSON HOARE

#### Private Banking in Bond Street.

c£20,000 + Health Care.

This charming Private Banker is looking to recruit a PA to run his small but beautiful office in Bond Street. You must be bright, professional, self motivated with good communication skills and possess a solid knowledge of Excel & MSW4/97.

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### MIDAS TOUCH

c£25,000 S.W.10

Two highly successful, highly intelligent, successful entrepreneurs are looking for an Executive Assistant who's capable of understanding and organising the complex day-to-day running of their empire. You're incredibly efficient, quick to learn (graduate culture), have an interest in the financial markets and are blessed with a keen sense of humour. Car driver (parking available), computer literacy and fast WP needed. Age 25-40.

PLEASE CALL 071 373 7777

**JIGSAW** RECRUITMENT

### SUBTLE ELEGANCE

c£18,000 W.1

Chief Executive of a busy European wholesale house is looking for a versatile 'right hand'. As his PA you must look the 'part' and be a flexible team player who'll happily get involved in everything from typing to selling to updating stock. You'll fit in if you're well educated, a real worker, efficient and organised with a soft charming exterior making a strong, humorous personality. 90/60 skills. Age 25-30.

PLEASE CALL 071 373 7777

**JIGSAW** RECRUITMENT

### COSMETICS

c£19,500 W.1

MD of a leading international cosmetics company needs a superb efficient PA to assist with an exceptionally demanding 1:1 role which requires tact, diplomacy, precision and a sense of urgency. A solid professional background is needed by this energetic, energetic MD who's backed by a friendly committed team. This is not the job for a faint-hearted person! Fast WP essential. Age 25-40.

PLEASE CALL 071 373 7777

**JIGSAW** RECRUITMENT

### CAREER OPPORTUNITIES IN PR

Edelman Public Relations, the largest privately owned PR company is looking for dynamic secretarial and support staff in London to assist our increasingly busy PR consultants in their specialist areas. Ideally, you will be in your second job, enthusiastic, energetic, well organised, personable and have proven literacy and numeracy skills. We require a minimum of 60 wpm typing and a sound knowledge of MS Word for Windows, Excel and PowerPoint would be an advantage. Additionally, if you are a bright, lively and well-presented person with some typing experience and are interested in part time Reception work, we would like to hear from you. If you think you have the commitment and drive to make the most of these exciting opportunities, please write, including an up-to-date CV, to: Erica Evans, Edelman Public Relations, Haymarket House, 28-29 Haymarket, London SW1Y 4SP (or call 0171 344 1236 or fax 0171 344 1298)

### MERIDIAN

#### TEMP TO PERM TOP PA ROLE

£16,000 + Excellent Benefits. A prestigious City-based Bank is seeking a well organised professional PA. The position is both challenging and demanding and requires a flexible and pro-active individual to work for this busy Head of Department. S/Hand, W4W and WP 5.1 experience is essential. Please contact Victoria Russo or Susie Smith 071 255 1555

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

### MERIDIAN

#### INVESTMENT BANK GRADUATE PA

£14 - 16,000 + Banking Benefits

A unique opportunity has arisen for a highly motivated PA within a prestigious Merchant bank. The position is challenging and demanding and requires a graduate with a years experience to work alongside two dynamic directors. You will liaise with clients, research projects and look after their day to day secretarial requirements. Please contact Sandy Burton 071 255 1555

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

### REGAN & DEAN + ADLAND

#### EVENT MANAGEMENT COMPANY SECRETARIES (PREF. BI-LINGUAL)

Dynamic account teams within a leading international company need production co-ordinators and capable, confident young secretaries. Must have at least 1 year's relevant secretarial experience, along with excellent presentation and ability to cope. They'll get extra points for a friendly, motivated team. This is not the job for a faint-hearted person! Fast WP skills essential. Excellent WP skills essential.

£15,000 + Negotiable A.A.E.

Regan & Dean + Adland Recruitment Ltd. 21 South Molton Street, W1T 1BH. Tel: 071 488 3394

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Are you a Legal Secretary with a wealth of company/commercial experience who would like to work in the Legal Department of a Blue Chip P.A. role? 25+, well educated, you should be confident, self-motivated and someone who likes to type and handle a variety of tasks. If you have Windows, fast audio skills and are ready to make that important move call us now for an interview. No two days the same!

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MAKE STRIDES towards the Pinnacle of your CAREER with the Legal Department of a Blue Chip P.A. role? 25+, well educated, you should be confident, self-motivated and someone who likes to type and handle a variety of tasks. If you have Windows, fast audio skills and are ready to make that important move call us now for an interview. No two days the same!

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5 London Wall Buildings, Fenchurch Street, EC2M 2HT

### SENIOR TEAM SECRETARY

Salary c £17,500

Our friendly and successful human resource consultancy specialises in career management and development primarily for executives in The City. We need a bright and outgoing secretary to join the Client Services team who deliver the consistently high quality of service our clients expect. In this role you will meet and take with clients at all levels and be directly involved with the varied day-to-day activities of the consultancy. Based in beautiful offices near St. Paul's we can offer challenge, involvement and a friendly working environment to an experienced secretary. We ask that you have excellent people and organisational skills and the ability to work happily under pressure. The ideal candidate will be aged 25+, educated to A level standard with professional presentation and experience of Wordperfect 5.1 and Microsoft Word 6.0. Shorthand would be an asset.

To apply please send us your CV to Kim Luscovitch, Client Services Manager, Hardman Consulting Ltd, 7 Ludgate Broadway, London EC4V 8DX - fax 071 488 1261

### THE CHELSEA

KNIGHTSBRIDGE

#### SECRETARIES REQUIRED

Our busy Sales and Marketing department and a highly organised secretary with excellent W.P. skills and some of business for public relations with high volume typing requirements.

FOOD & BEVERAGE

The F & B team has a new manager who needs a flexible, enthusiastic secretary to assist in organising the department. Previous experience would be helpful, however if you have excellent organisational skills along with W.P. 100/60, type 60-70 wpm, CALL US NOW.

We offer an excellent benefits package - includes up to £15,000 dependent upon experience. CALL Personnel on 071-335-4371 for more information.

### BANKING... BANKING...

£15,000 to £20,000 + pkg

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CALL Personnel on 071-335-4371 for more information.

### SECRETARY

(2 posts) Centre for International Education in Economics (CIEE)

£13/K - £15/K p.a. inc.

We need a highly organised secretary with an interest in education to join our team which supports international distance learning programmes in Economics and Finance. CIEE has over 400 students world-wide and cohorts of students in the Far East and Africa.

You should enjoy working as a team member, pay close attention to detail and be able to work under pressure. The successful applicants must have expertise in word processing (preferably Apple Mac) and be willing to handle spreadsheets and databases to ensure the smooth running of secretarial activities in this expanding and innovative Centre. Previous secretarial experience is essential.

As the posts are linked to projects, the first is for one year and the other for three years in the first instance, however both are likely to be renewed.

Application forms and job descriptions may be obtained from the Personnel Office, School of Oriental and African Studies, Thornhaugh Street, Russell Square, London WC1H 0XG (tel: 071-823 6189 between 10.30 am and 2.00 pm). No CVs or agencies.

Closing date: Wednesday 25 January 1995.

Interviews: Tuesday 31 January 1995. SOAS is an equal opportunities employer.







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# LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

NEW YEAR - NEW CAREER

FAX:  
071 782 7826

## STYLISH PA to £25,000

As PA to the MD of this dynamic training company you will organize conferences and ensure the office runs smoothly. An outgoing personality, the ability to anticipate and a flexible attitude are more important than relevant experience. Ideally you'll be a graduate with 50 wpm typing, 70 wpm shorthand and WP exp. Age 27-35 years. Please telephone 071 495 2321.

Elizabeth Hunt  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## BANKING SEC/ADMIN £20,000

Plus all Banking Benefits. A demanding role assisting the Managing Director of the Global Services Division of this prestigious American Investment House. 55 wpm copy typing, good WP/Spreadsheet knowledge and solid admin experience needed. Plenty of opportunity for overtime (all paid). Age 25-35 years. Please telephone 071 495 8070.

Elizabeth Hunt  
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## CITY TEMPS

With hourly pay rates of up to £10, loyalty bonus, paid bank holidays and cross training onto the latest systems, you know you are well looked after when you join our team of top calibre temporary secretaries and receptionists. So for immediate assignments please telephone Katrina and Stephanie on 071 920 9388 or 071 628 9529.

Elizabeth Hunt  
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## DIRECTOR'S PA £22,000

This prestigious organisation seeks a Secretary/PA to act as a communication link to the Sales Director and become his right hand. The ability to handle confidential matters and arrange travel, meetings, conferences is of paramount importance. 90/80 skills and senior level experience required. Age 25-32. Please telephone 071 628 9529.

Elizabeth Hunt  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## CHAIRMAN'S PA £25,000

This extremely successful entrepreneurial chairman is looking for a top calibre PA to assist him. Challenging role based in beautiful West End offices. Previous board level experience, confidence, commitment, 90 wpm shorthand and 65 wpm typing needed. Age to mid 30's. Please telephone 071 495 8070.

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## TOP CLASS SECRETARY

London First Centre is the new inward investment agency to promote London as the prime city for locating and developing businesses. It's an exciting, high-profile project which is critical for the future strength of the Capital.

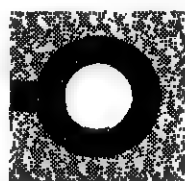
We now need an experienced secretary with the skills and personality to assist in setting up new systems and the enthusiasm to get really involved. This involves joining our small overseas sales team providing general secretarial assistance to the centre's international sales directors.

Your diverse activities will include preparing presentations and reports to potential investors as well as arranging meetings and organising overseas itineraries. You must have a really flexible approach and the initiative to help ensure the smooth running of the office.

With a good standard of education (Minimum four GCSE/O' levels) and at least three years' secretarial experience, you must be very well presented and have a confident professional manner. In addition to at least 65 words per minute you must have a sound knowledge of Word for Windows and ideally familiarity with the Microsoft Office suite of products. You should have the interpersonal skills to liaise effectively with a wide range of people. Language skills would be an asset.

If this exciting opportunity appeals to you, please write in confidence, enclosing CV and details of your current salary, to Stephen Drury, London First Centre, 1 Hobbhouse Court, Suffolk Street, London SW1Y 4HH.

The closing date for applications is 20 January 1995.



London First Centre

## EXECUTIVE SECRETARY £19,000

Exciting opportunity for a confident, intelligent Executive Secretary to assist the Strategic Planning and Business Development Managers of the World's leading Wine & Spirits marketing company. Excellent secretarial skills, Windows & Graphics expertise, ability to produce high quality documents, highly efficient at organising world-wide venues & travel itineraries, and excellent interpersonal skills are all essential qualities for this varied and interesting role.

Call HAZEL BRANDON, 071 463 1528

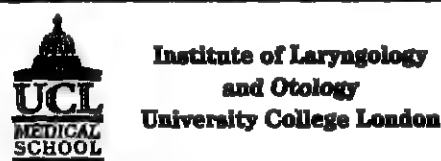
SEGAL  
RECRUITMENT

## MARKETING SECRETARY £18,000

Outstanding career move for well spoken, intelligent secretary with a genuine interest in marketing to assist the Marketing Director of this prestigious international marketing company. This exciting role, working on one of their major brands, requires a technically astute, motivated secretary with advanced Windows and graphics expertise and experience in producing very high quality documents. Superior presentation and a confident, outgoing personality are also essential.

Call HAZEL BRANDON, 071 463 1528

SEGAL  
RECRUITMENT



## Divisional Administrator/Personal Assistant

Division of Audiological Medicine

The Professor of Audiological Medicine seeks a well educated PA to support the organisation and administration of the research, teaching and clinical activities of the busy Division of Audiological Medicine. The successful applicant should be self motivated and able to work on his/her own initiative.

The appointee will provide secretarial support for the Professor and the Division as required. Accurate audio typing and good wordprocessing skills are essential. Relevant medical experience is desirable.

The appointee will supervise the day to day administration of the MSc courses run by the Division of Audiological Medicine and will work with the part time secretary whose primary responsibility is to provide secretarial support for these courses.

A pleasant manner and good communication skills are an integral part of the work, which involves dealing directly with a variety of different people including patients, students, clinicians, academics and administrators.

Salary on U.O.L. CRS Grade 5: £13,820 - £16,005 plus £2,134 L.W. There is an excellent pension scheme.

For further details please telephone Sharon Bailey on 071-837-8855 Ext.4214 or send CV giving the name of two referees to: Mrs C Overington, Administrator, Institute of Laryngology and Otolaryngology, 330/332 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EE.

Closing date for receipt of applications: Friday 27th January 1995.

## College to Career £10,000-£12,000

Follow in the footsteps of our 'success story' secretaries who began their careers talking to Hobstones. We have access to many of the top college leaver positions in London - below are a few examples:-

- Venture Capital
- Junior Secretary
- Futures & Options
- Marketing Asst
- Merchant Bank
- Junior in Personnel
- Property
- Office Junior

Tip on how to write your C.V., interview technique and career advice are all part of our service. Get your secretarial career off to a flying start with Hobstones. Call Sarah or Esther on 071 377 9919 today, we are waiting to hear from you.

HOBSTONES  
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## PROPERTY SECRETARY DIRECTOR LEVEL

£17,500 Head Office, West End

A new position within a development management company which creates property development opportunities and undertakes development consultancy.

The role primarily involves assisting the Managing Director with his responsibilities in developing the Company. Accordingly your organisational & administrative skills will be fully utilised. You will have contact with a wide range of senior property professionals and clients and be used to thinking 'on your feet'!

Ideally you will be 25+ years of age, be computer literate in a 'windows environment', competent with WordPerfect 5.1 and WordPerfect 6.0 for Windows, possess shorthand/audio skills, have experience in a property related or management consultancy office, be articulate and possess a sense of humour.

If you believe that you could enjoy working within a small company, where there is variety, responsibility, scope for advancement and where your skills and personality are appreciated, please write with a copy of your C.V. to: Christopher R. Butler, M.D., Quantum Development Management Limited, 85 Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 9HD.

## HUMAN RESOURCES £16,000 & Excellent Benefits

Major West End drinks company seeks a super efficient secretary to be the focal point of a very busy department. Providing full secretarial & admin support to 3 managers, you will in addition be producing presentation documents, maintaining databases, assisting with expat. admin as well as dealing with a variety of daily enquiries. This is a demanding role calling for excellent secretarial skills & the ability to use your initiative under pressure. Word for Windows. Age: 25-35. Skills: 60+ typing.

The Recruitment Company  
071 831 1220

## Junior secretary for CE's office

City c.£13,000 + benefits

The London International Financial Futures and Options Exchange is well established as one of the City's leading financial institutions, having grown consistently for more than a decade and achieved record levels of trading in 1994.

We now have an opportunity for a young, graduate-calibre secretary - possibly with around six months' relevant experience - to join the secretarial team supporting the Chief Executive at our prestige Cannon Bridge HQ. Initially working under the guidance of senior colleagues, you will quickly be exposed to the full range of secretarial duties including audio typing, diary management and administrative work for both the CE and the Chairman.

In addition to A-level education you must be able to demonstrate good keyboard and shorthand skills. On the personal front, you will need a winning

telephone manner, a helpful approach, and an ability to remain calm under pressure. If you are looking for scope to display your initiative and common sense as well as an opportunity to broaden your skills, this could be the role for you.

Starting salary will be backed by an attractive range of benefits including interest-free season-ticket loan and free pension and health care schemes.

To apply, please send enclosing your detailed CV to Jenny Belts, Personnel Administrator, LIFFE, Cannon Bridge, London EC4R 3XX.

LIFFE

The London International Financial Futures and Options Exchange

## Confident Young Secretaries

Are you a smart young secretary? Do you enjoy using your own initiative? Our client, the City's leading investment bank can offer you career progression, an excellent salary and a really interesting, varied role. Working at Director level you will oversee meetings, travel, finance and social functions. It is a professional but very friendly environment and the office is superb. Ongoing training is offered and you will also benefit from the support of highly organised back-up staff and the latest up to date technology. Previous city experience NOT a requirement. Benefits include free lunch, bonus, gym, health and dental cover. Basic salary to £28,000 plus pension equivalent to 12.5%. Please call now for more details.

Tel 071 377 5000 or Fax 071 377 5000

CROSS SELECTION

## Executive Secretary/P.A.

The Chairman of an International Company in the West End requires a dedicated P.A. He is a professional and can be demanding but is also a gentleman with a sense of humour. You will be pro-active, business orientated and possess excellent communication skills. Preferably a self-motivated graduate with language - you can expect to use your initiative to the full. Confidence and excellent presentation are pre-requisites and your commitment to the success of the company will be recognised and rewarded accordingly. Salary £22K+. For more details, please call us.

Tel 071 377 5000 or Fax 071 377 5000

CROSS SELECTION

## Paragon PA in PR?

£28,000 p.a.

To provide the all-round support to the Managing Director of a leading City PR firm, you will be responsible for the day to day running of the office. You will be a graduate with 25-30 wpm good shorthand and WP exp. You will also be responsible for the day to day running of the office. You will be a graduate with 25-30 wpm good shorthand and WP exp. You will also be responsible for the day to day running of the office.

JOYCE GUINNESS  
0171 589 8807

JOYCE GUINNESS  
0171 589 8807

## Marketing Magic

£28,000 p.a.

Young, energetic city Marketing Co's MD seeks for the perfect PA (25-30) with shorthand, WPM and WP exp. You will be responsible for the day to day running of the office. You will be a graduate with 25-30 wpm good shorthand and WP exp. You will also be responsible for the day to day running of the office.

JOYCE GUINNESS  
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## Prop up 2 Producers

£24,000 p.a.

These two busy, dynamic people need a lively on-air secretary who will take a full range of responsibilities. You will be responsible for the day to day running of the office. You will be a graduate with 25-30 wpm good shorthand and WP exp. You will also be responsible for the day to day running of the office.

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JOYCE GUINNESS  
0171 589 8807

## Experienced Receptionist

£24,500 p.a.

Opportunity to grow with this new, young, dynamic company. You will be responsible for the day to day running of the office. You will be a graduate with 25-30 wpm good shorthand and WP exp. You will also be responsible for the day to day running of the office.

JOYCE GUINNESS  
0171 589 8807

JOYCE GUINNESS  
0171 589 8807

TEAM SUPPORTER (INVESTMENT MGMT.) £19,000 + BANK FEES  
A leading US investment management company who operate out of London. Their office are in need of a brilliant young Secretary (age 25-early 30s) to assist a highly talented team of 4 investment advisers who are responsible for the management of client portfolios. They need a confident, self-motivated, energetic and hard working individual who will take a full range of responsibilities. You will be responsible for the day to day running of the office. You will be a graduate with 25-30 wpm good shorthand and WP exp. You will also be responsible for the day to day running of the office.

MOVE TO BOARD LEVEL £22,000 + BONUS/BENEFITS  
A positive PA who has established their skills in a Director level support role is now looking for a new challenge. You will be responsible for the day to day running of the office. You will be a graduate with 25-30 wpm good shorthand and WP exp. You will also be responsible for the day to day running of the office.

CITY SECRETARIAL SPECIALISTS:  
INVESTMENT BANKING & LLOYDS BROKING  
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MAY & STEPHENS

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£10 per hour

The City holds the key to the most exciting and varied temporary assignments in London and we hold the key to entering the best temporary market. With the City temporary market still growing at breakneck speed we constantly need the very best secretaries and PAs to join our team and meet the demands of our many blue chip clients. Shorthand secretaries with Director level experience and excellent systems can expect £9.50 per hour and £10 per hour for Chairman level assignments. Overtime is easily accrued and assignments vary from 1 week to covering maternity leave and temp to perm situations. Don't waste any more time - call a member of our temporary division NOW! 0171 590 7008.

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CLUTTONS

LONDON RESIDENTIAL AGENCY

Co-ordinator/Negotiator - Fulham Lettings

Due to the increased growth of the Lettings Department in Fulham, we currently have a vacancy for the above. The ideal candidate should have typing 60wpm, knowledge of WordPerfect 6.0 (Windows) and be currently engaged with good communication skills. Driving Licence essential.

Co-ordinator - Knightsbridge

Residential Sales, House Department

Candidates applying should have typing 60 wpm, knowledge of WordPerfect 6.0 (Windows) and should be engaged with good communication skills. Driving Licence essential.

Miss Patricia Curtis, Cluttons London Residential Agency, 7 Lower Sloane Street, London SW1W 8AR. Tel 071 824 8822. Fax 071 720 5331.

## Personnel Secretary/PA

AUTONOMY/INITIATIVE/RESPONSIBILITY

CITY

TO £20,000 PRP + EXCELLENT BENEFITS

Theodore Goddard, a large City law firm, is seeking an experienced administrative secretary (ideally a graduate) to join their Personnel team, working principally for the Personnel Director.

With a myriad of administrative duties such as sorting of applications, assisting with arrangements for graduate recruitment and arranging interviews in addition to the more routine tasks, the successful candidate will find that no two days are the same!

Candidates must have fast and accurate audio/WP skills, a flair for using computer databases, an eye for detail and be flexible about hours - the department is a busy one. A non-smoker is required.

Please send application to Liz Toner (Miss), Personnel Manager, Theodore Goddard, 150 Aldersgate Street, London EC1A 4EL.

THEODORE GODDARD

LONDON LAW FIRM

ADMIN PA

£18K PKG + EXC BENS

Superb role for proactive individual looking for true involvement. Supporting dynamic boss who likes to delegate. Plenty of client contact, diary & meeting mgmt. 60wpm audio & consistent exp. Age 24-35.

071 287 3654

NEXT EMPLOYMENT

## BVCA

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

The British Venture Capital Association

The representative body for the UK venture capital industry.

Based Temple, Central London

This expanding organisation has a new opening for a bright, well organised and hard working individual with an ability to handle a variety of work in a busy and demanding environment.

As a member of a small team you will primarily be responsible for handling reception duties and secretarial work, offering support to different members of the team, as well as assisting in the day to day running of the office. As you will be constantly dealing with people strong interpersonal skills are vital together with good presentation, self motivation and a positive cheerful attitude.

Excellent secretarial and administrative skills are essential and you must be fully conversant with Word for Windows. Database experience would be useful.

There will be an opportunity in the long term for the right person to develop their role within the organisation and a excellent salary is offered according to age and experience.

Please send your application in writing with your full Curriculum Vitae and indicating your salary requirements to:

Ms N Roberts, HR Recruitment, 295 Stuyvesant Road, New, Richmond, Surrey TW9 3WJ

All applications will be held in the strictest confidence.

PR - CHIEF EXEC'S PA c£22,000

Inviting role for professional PA/Sec who has worked at CEO/Chairman/MD level at least A-level and intermediate 5/6 and good written & verbal communication skills. Good knowledge of leading UK companies. Full organisational, committed senior person. 30/60 skills. 25+.

MOVE INTO ADVERTISING £19,000

With a professional or marketing type background as PA to a Director who specialises in brand consultancy you will become part of an exciting, fast paced environment. 30/60 wpm. 25+.

LEGAL SEC INTO MUSIC £16-18,000

Leading Record Co need senior secretary with at least 2/3 years legal exp to work for the Business Affairs Director. Must be interested in music and have a good understanding of the industry and trends. 60 wpm. 25+.

GRADUATE SEC - CAREER IN ADVERTISING c£18,000

W1 Media Town for leading Advertising Agency are looking to recruit a graduate secretary with major commitment who wants to make a career in advertising. Give us back up and tell us on other details as well. Commission £1 about a year, 50 wpm/60 min wpm exp.

Tel 071 638 6411

Fax 071 636 2457

134 Great Portland St, W1N 5PH (Blue Coat)

SECRETARY

London Business School requires a professional secretary to provide support to two academics.

The successful role includes preparation of teaching materials on graphics package, correspondence and reports on WordPerfect 5.1. Use administrative skills to organise meetings and diaries, telephone liaison, make travel arrangements, assist students and maintain budgets on Lotus spreadsheets.

You will have relevant work experience, a mature approach, a good telephone manner and excellent organisational and time management skills.

London Business School

ADVERTISING AND DESIGN, SW1

Fast growing and highly creative design group, with an expanding client base, is looking to recruit additional admin support for the following post:

Personal Assistant

A real chance to enhance and develop a promising career in advertising. A fast opportunity to make into the exciting world of a dynamic and fast-moving company. Agency experience essential.

Secretary/Administrator

To provide essential support and help ensure our office and studio run smoothly, fast, efficient, typing skills required (60wpm for Windows) along with general office exp. exp. Salary £13/14K pa.

Receptionist

Appt. with excellent typing skills (70 wpm+) to run our Reception with efficiency as well as general office support, dealing with courier, greeting clients etc. Hours 8.30am-5.30pm. Salary £12/13K pa.

Both positions require exp in the advertising/PA role, along with a calm and professional attitude, excellent presentation and a warm personality.

Please send CV with photographs (maximum 2) to: The Recruitment Centre, Marton Gibson Group Limited, 2 Victoria Street, London SW1P 4JL.

Absolutely no agencies and no telephone calls please

PROJECT SECRETARY

The Norwegian Trade Council is responsible for the promotion of international trade with Norway and for the identification and development of specific business opportunities for Norwegian companies.

We require a lively, intelligent person with secretarial, administrative and computer skills to work closely with senior staff at our London office. The work will entail both a wide variety of secretarial duties, support to senior staff and participation in project teams on specific assignments for Norwegian companies. We are looking for team players who are able to act with initiative, creativity and enthusiasm.

Salary negotiable.

Please reply in the first instance by 22 January to:

Mr Finn Kjekshus

Norwegian Trade Council

Charles House

8711 Lower Regent Street

London SW1Y 4LR

Norwegian Trade Council

BANKING SECRETARIES £18 - £18.5K

We have various positions within the Banking/Investment areas for polished, professional secretaries with excellent IT skills, shorthand & organisational exp. Working for one of London's most prestigious Investment Houses you will receive benefits that are unsurpassed including designer clothing discounts, free lunches, a bonus scheme and much, much more.

Call Jo at Banks Consultancy on 071 588 5752 - Fax 071 256 5581.



TO ADVERTISE  
CALL: 071 481 9994

# LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

## NEW YEAR - NEW CAREER

FAX:  
071 782 7826

**ROOM AT THE TOP**  
SUCCESS KNOWS NO BOUNDARIES  
PA £25-35,000

A unique opportunity to work as PA to a VIP based in Oman. You will need a minimum of five years' main board director level experience to enable you to understand the responsibility that this role carries. Due to the high profile nature of this job, confidentiality and the ability to deal with extremes of pressure are pre-requisites. You will be liaising at the very highest levels, therefore personal presentation and an understanding of social etiquette are essential.

Add an international dimension to your career and learn more about a truly fascinating culture. Please call Denise Mole, International Division, on 071-287 7788 or fax your CV on 071-499 5378. Angela Mortimer Plc is an equal opportunities employer. All applications are positively welcomed.



Angela Mortimer

**Media Relations**  
£16-18000 + bens

Do you have the dynamism to work in media relations? Do you have the experience of organising AGMs and other corporate events? Have you ever written, or helped to write, press releases? Our client, a major international plc with a major reputation in plans to maintain, will be keen to hear from you if you have this experience coupled with sound secretarial skills (70 wpm shorthand/55+ wpm typing/windows) and confident communication ability. Please call Charlotte Crompton on 071 437 6032 for more information.

**HOBSTONES**  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

**See The Difference!**  
to £24,000 plus excellent perks

Fed up with the humdrum of a job which is going nowhere? Join this dynamic leading international company as a PA to an MD and your life will change at once. Your proactive nature and ability to make sure every busy day runs smoothly will have a direct effect on his success and you will feel that your initiative and drive are really appreciated. If you are 28+ with excellent skills 100/60, a level education and experience of working at senior level. Please telephone Maggie on 071 437 6032 for more details.

**HOBSTONES**  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

**Rise & Shine**  
£14,000 + super bens

Wake up every morning and look forward to the day ahead when you join this globally renowned company in W1. Working within the marketing department as a junior secretary you will use your typing and shorthand skills within this busy role. But this is no ordinary secretarial job as there will be plenty of other projects to get stuck into as well as clear prospects to move up within the company. If you have 8 GCSE's, a minimum of 1 year's experience and 50wpm/70wpm/50wpm then please call Kate Harlow on 071 437 6032 for an immediate interview.

**HOBSTONES**  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

**Fun on the Floor!**  
£16,500-£19,500 + bb

A hectic team of young brokers need you to bring a sense of order back to their day! Thrive on the excitement of the trading floor as you rush around skilfully holding the fort. You'll need to be able to prioritise a heavy workload - venting calls, arranging meetings, managing the diary and organising travel itineraries. No two days are the same. A team player, you will have Word for Windows and 60wpm typing. Age 25-32. It's hard work but great fun. Call Samantha on 071 377 9919.

**HOBSTONES**  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

**Perfect P.A.**  
£26,000 Package

MD within a prestigious and international organisation is looking for a dynamic and tough-minded PA to work with him on a 1:1 basis. He is hard working and a perfectionist and will be looking for absolute commitment from you. In return, you will be rewarded with 100% job satisfaction, involvement in highly sensitive work and the chance to take control of your own projects. Word for Windows, Excel, Age 25-32. If you are happy to work long hours, are educated to A level standard and want a real challenge - call Amanda immediately on 071 377 9919.

**HOBSTONES**  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

**EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT**  
£22K + Benefits

We have 3 vacancies available at an international Executive Search Company in the West End. High position involves working on a 1:1 basis with a senior partner and will offer a high degree of involvement, responsibility and autonomy. You should be a dynamic self-starter with the confidence and professional skills to deliver excellent results. If you have strong organisational skills and a solid career history, please call Mrs. Kelly SECRETARIAL & TEMPORARY appointments on 071-375 6333.

A division of GRADUATE APPOINTMENTS  
Covent Garden

**TRAINING CONSULTANT**

Required to promote the most modern place and career opportunities of the company. Excellent communication and presentation skills. A minimum of 5 years' experience in a similar role. Excellent salary and benefits. Please call Maggie on 071 437 6032 for more details.

**THE RITZ**  
LONDON SW1 0JN  
Telephone: 071 373-3852

**PROFESSIONAL PA**  
£22,000 + BENES

Working for a leading international company in W1. You will be responsible for a wide range of duties including: managing the diary, organising travel, arranging meetings, managing the diary and organising travel itineraries. No two days are the same. A team player, you will have Word for Windows and 60wpm typing. Age 25-32. It's hard work but great fun. Call Samantha on 071 377 9919.

**HOBSTONES**  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

**ACME**  
PA/ADMINISTRATOR  
£19,000

We are seeking an outgoing, super confident secretary who is capable of assuming full responsibility for a main Director of a prominent Media Group. Total involvement and a long term career prospect to someone who can show dedication, good organisational skills and a genuine flair for business.

Samantha Harvey  
Acme Appointments 071 629 7232

**PROMOTIONAL MARKETING AGENCY**  
IN SW1  
REQUIRE A PA TO MD

Working for the MD of a small, friendly marketing company which specialises in event management, sponsorship and promotions and requires a PA to work with him on a 1:1 basis. He is hard working and a perfectionist and will be looking for absolute commitment from you. In return, you will be rewarded with 100% job satisfaction, involvement in highly sensitive work and the chance to take control of your own projects. Word for Windows, Excel, Age 25-32. If you are happy to work long hours, are educated to A level standard and want a real challenge - call Amanda immediately on 071 377 9919.

**HOBSTONES**  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

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STOP PRESS  
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IF YOU KNEW THAT  
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WOULD YOU IGNORE OUR LEGAL  
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THIS SPECIAL FEATURE OR FOR  
FURTHER DETAILS PLEASE CONTACT  
THE CRÈME DE LA CRÈME TEAM.

TEL: 071 481 9994  
FAX: 071 782 7827

Source: 1 NBS - Oct 95 - Sept 96, 11 NBS - Jan - June 94

**Make a difference**

Make 1995 the year that you gain new experiences and new skills with Angela Mortimer. Whether you are a college leaver or an executive PA, our Consultants offer the same friendly, one-to-one service. We can select for you a variety of challenging opportunities with well-known, prestigious clients in a wide range of sectors - from banking to media. With your flexible, professional and committed attitude to working at the highest possible standards we will offer you high financial rewards. Minimum salary 15 wpm, at least two WP packages and shorthand in advantage. Angela Mortimer Plc is an equal opportunities employer. All applications are positively welcomed.

More time to yourself!  
We have a wide range of part-time temporary/permanent assignments. Call us now on 0171 287 7788

**Angela Mortimer**

**Leading Floor**

£16,000 + Bank Bens Based in the dealing room of a successful City investment house, you will provide back-up to a small group of traders. With a confident attitude and the ability to thrive in a demanding environment, you will take responsibility for a broad range of duties, from handling marketing materials and organising presentations to making travel arrangements. A committed team player you'll be prepared to work long hours when necessary. Ideally, you will be a 2nd/3rd jobber with approximately 3 years' experience within a banking environment, together with sound secretarial (40/60) and administrative skills and knowledge of Word for Windows (Rec Cons). Angela Mortimer Plc is an equal opportunities employer. All applications are positively welcomed.

0171 726 8491

**Angela Mortimer**

**PA to Chief Executive**

£23,000 The Chief Executive of this thriving organisation needs an executive assistant to take a managing role in his office. This is an unusual opportunity for an energetic PA with stamina in your creative flair, business acumen and excellent communication skills to assist his innovative boss with his progressive plans. You will prepare briefs, organise seminars, supervise your secretary and develop a relationship that could lead to representing your boss at functions. Previous board level experience is pre-requisite. Skills 80/60. For further details please contact Angela Mortimer Plc (Rec Cons). Angela Mortimer Plc is an equal opportunities employer. All applications are positively welcomed. TOP TEMPS also urgently required. Call Fina.

0171 726 8491

**Angela Mortimer**

**Options**  
WORD REPLY

**FASHIONABLE PA** £19,000 + Excellent Perks  
Your Director level experience and shorthand skills together with your down to earth personality will be the perfect combination for this role. You will be responsible for a wide range of duties including: managing the diary, organising travel, arranging meetings, managing the diary and organising travel itineraries. No two days are the same. A team player, you will have Word for Windows and 60wpm typing. Age 25-32. It's hard work but great fun. Call Samantha on 071 377 9919.

**HOBSTONES**  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

**ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES**

Successful fast growing 50 people strong London based Advertising Agency has the following opportunities:

**PA TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE** - To work closely on advising clients, new business and company management. Full Agency Account Group Secretary looking for a more senior role with greater responsibility.

**TELEPHONE/RECEPTIONIST** - Need for very strong secretarial skills (50K wpm) proven experience in a similar role essential. Applicants should be well spoken, of friendly disposition and of smart appearance. Ability to train a junior receptionist and manage the reception area. Hours 8.30am to 5.30pm.

**OFFICE MANAGER** - Ability to manage all aspects of the day to day running of the office. Responsible for organising, managing, supervising and training staff. Responsibility for managing the office and all support staff. 5 years plus proven experience in a similar role essential.

Excellent benefits package including profit share.

PLEASE SEND HAND WRITTEN LETTER, CV AND PHOTO TO BOX NO 2882 - C/O THE TIMES NEWSPAPERS 1 VIRGINIA STREET, LONDON E1 9BL

**Hotel & Leisure Industry**

**£18,000** This is an outstanding opportunity to join one of the world's leading hotel and leisure companies as Secretary to two dynamic business Directors. With your strong sense of initiative and first-class organisational skills, you will play a central role within a busy team handling a broad range of office duties along with your own project work. Frequently dealing with clients and senior colleagues, you must have a personable yet professional approach in tune with our client's high-profile corporate image. A formally trained Secretary, you must have good WP and audio-typing skills and the ability to adapt quickly to new office technology. Ideally, you should have some experience of working at the highest level within a fast-moving commercial environment. Angela Mortimer Plc is an equal opportunities employer. All applications are positively welcomed.

0171 726 8491

**Angela Mortimer**

**PA to Chief Executive**

£23,000 The Chief Executive of this thriving organisation needs an executive assistant to take a managing role in his office. This is an unusual opportunity for an energetic PA with stamina in your creative flair, business acumen and excellent communication skills to assist his innovative boss with his progressive plans. You will prepare briefs, organise seminars, supervise your secretary and develop a relationship that could lead to representing your boss at functions. Previous board level experience is pre-requisite. Skills 80/60. For further details please contact Angela Mortimer Plc (Rec Cons). Angela Mortimer Plc is an equal opportunities employer. All applications are positively welcomed. TOP TEMPS also urgently required. Call Fina.

0171 726 8491

**Angela Mortimer**

**Assistant/Secretary**

£20,000 The British Offshore Oil and Gas Industry's representative organisation is seeking a PA to work for the Director of Government and Public Affairs. You will be in charge of overseeing a database system and providing efficient secretarial support. There will be extensive dealings with the media as well as improving communication with key Government departments and working with the European Union. You must have experience in the above fields, minimum 2 years, be proactive, be able to prioritise and work under pressure. Angela Mortimer Plc is an equal opportunities employer. All applications are positively welcomed.

0171 287 7788

**Angela Mortimer**

**PA/ADMINISTRATOR**

Required to work for head of busy Dorset office of national chartered surveying company. Position involves general secretarial duties in running a busy private client portfolio together with responsibility for office administration, personnel, meeting organisation, report writing, minutes taking etc. Successful applicant should have excellent organisational skills, proven ability to lead and make decisions, fast accurate typing (using Word and Word for Windows), PC experience and shorthand. Please apply in writing enclosing a copy of your CV, setting out any additional points which you think may be relevant to your application to Mrs N. Curtis, Senior, Western House, Wimborne, Dorset, BH21 1PS.

CLOSING DATE MONDAY 23 JANUARY 1995

**Bond Street Bureau**

**TRAVEL** - £15,500 + Exc. Perks  
Sht. useful - not essential.  
Sec PA to work for head of Marketing of this well known Travel Co. Must be well presented, confident and able to deal with people at all levels as some travel will be involved throughout U.K. Age early 20s. 25 hrs/week. Sec. Exp. Excellent notice still some audio.

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honest, friendly professional service. As a result, we have assignments with TOP companies in London at stunning rates. If you have excellent WP/Sec skills (we can train) ...  
Call Jane or Steve on 071 408 0300.  
What we say...we do!  
299 Oxford Street, London W1R 1LA

**ADMINISTRATOR/PA**  
Salary c £21,000

A challenging role for a fast thinking team player. We are a friendly, professional City based human resource consultancy established in 1988. Due to continued expansion we need to add to our team a hard working individual who can combine strong administrative skills with elements of secretarial skills to support our Operations and Marketing Director. To be successful in this role you will need initiative, numeracy and strong organisational skills. A high level of computer literacy with database, spreadsheet and ITT experience would be ideal. You should have a level-headed disposition, an ability to work to deadlines and a good sense of humour. We prefer candidates of graduate standard, with excellent personal presentation aged late 20's and above.

To apply please send or fax your CV to Stephanie Stiles, Meridian Consulting Ltd, 7 Ludgate Broadway, London EC4V 6DX - fax 071 489 1261

**EXPERIENCED**  
Recruitment Consultant

**£20k to £30k Basic + Bonus**  
Opportunity to Head the Secretarial Division of a leading firm of Recruitment Consultants, based in modern City offices. Company offers a very lucrative Bonus scheme.

Call Nicholas Robbins on 071 628 8400 (work) or 081 607 9312 (evenings)

**SECRETARY/PA** - c£23,500

A well organised person is sought to provide first class secretarial support to the Finance Director of an international PLC at its head office in London W1. In addition to possessing excellent secretarial skills, including shorthand and knowledge of Word Perfect 5.1, the successful candidate will be someone of cheerful disposition and will probably have had several years experience in a senior secretarial role.

Please send CV and covering letter to Box No 2885, C/O The Times Newspapers, 1 Virginia St, London E1 9BL.

**RECEPTIONIST/SECRETARY**  
ADVERTISING AGENCY  
£12,500 NEG

Bright 21+ year old for combined role of Receptionist/Secretary with one office in small, busy, busy agency. Must have fast & proven secretarial skills (50WPM) and be able to demonstrate genuine application (academic, vocational or work-based) & an interest in the advertising industry.

Apply only in writing with full CV to Sharon Harvey, 17 Bedford Square, London WC1B 3JA. No agencies.

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honest, friendly professional service. As a result, we have assignments with TOP companies in London at stunning rates. If you have excellent WP/Sec skills (we can train) ...  
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**SECRETARY/OFFICE MANAGER**  
£12k-£14k

Energetic and self motivated individual needed to run an office for a small, friendly, fast growing City based entertainment company. Successful applicant will have exceptional organisational skills and knowledge of Lotus/Ami-pro.

Please send your CV to Susan Osman, The Coda Centre, Unit 11, 188 Mansel Rd, SW6 6AW  
No calls or agencies please

**RECEPTIONIST** required for expanding City PR firm. WP skills an advantage (Wordperfect 5.1/6.0) Salary £11.500 a.e. Please forward CV to: Rachel Walsh, Focus Communications Group, 2-9 Masons Avenue, London, EC2V 5BT. Tel: 0171 600 1392. Fax: 0171 600 1365. NO AGENCIES PLEASE

**EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT**

wanted for West-end based investment manager. Must be numerically orientated, reliable, dedicated, willing to work extra hours and be generally available.

Job Description: Client liaison, editing of marketing material, maintain VAT and company books, plus normal secretarial. Must have MS Word, Excel and PowerPoint experience. 2nd language desirable. Salary, bonus, BUPA. No agencies.

Send CV w/ref to: Charles O'Donnell, Alpha Asset Management Ltd, 47 Albemarle St, London W1X 3FE

**P.A./RECEPTIONIST**

Means, highly organised PA required for London showrooms. We are the exclusive agents for PANTONE, styling and fashion design studios as well as publisher distributors. Knowledge of Italian and Italian and French/German would be helpful. At least 2/3 years experience in small/medium size company. Typing, filing, customer requests, Apple Mac, wordprocessing. Salary £14-15,000. Please send CV to: Mr Wade Hampton, Made Information Ltd, Eastgate Rise, 10-16 Eastgate St, London W1N 7PA

**THE PERFECT START**

£14,000 - T.V. Working for energetic Sales and Marketing team, scope for responsibility and development. 50 wpm.

£12,000 - Sports. Develop your existing organisational skills as a Director's Assistant. Interest in sport. 90/50.

£12,500 - Fashion. Rare opportunity to learn about conference, sales and human resource administration. 55 wpm.

£15,000 - American bank/streetbroker. Assistant to successful, international trading floor team. 50 wpm and Word for Windows.

Just left college or 6 months into your first job? Needing a fresh challenge? Angela Mortimer Plc has untold opportunities for you, if you have good skills and are keen to progress your career. Angela Mortimer Plc is an equal opportunities employer. All applications are positively welcomed. Call Samantha Phillips, Graduate and College Leaver Division on 071 287 7788

**Angela Mortimer**



TO ADVERTISE  
CALL: 071 481 9994

# LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

## NEW YEAR - NEW CAREER

FAX:  
071 782 7826

### LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

#### RECEPTION/SECRETARY

For Partners of small and lively Career Development Consultancy. Excellent salary and benefits according to age and experience. Skills in WP for Windows, typing and good personality. Apply with CV to: Jim Peck, Carverick Partners Ltd, 36 Queen Anne Street, London, W1M 9LB. Tel 071 436 4770

#### SHEILA BURGESS RECRUITMENT

Recruiter  
If you are a senior Consultant well versed in the complexities of Temporary and Permanent Recruitment, you will know that the key to achievement lies in your own individual style and capable approach. Confidence, maturity and experience have honed your instinctive talents and now, perhaps, you are seeking new opportunities. If you would like to discuss the exciting challenges of a stimulating position, or if you prefer, write to Sheila Burgess.

#### BATTERSEA PROPERTY CO SEEK A PAYSEC TO DIRECTORS

An exciting position in a fast moving environment. Audio essential. Short hand desirable: must be computer literate. Salary based on experience. Contact John Elkington or Richard Hickie on Tel 071 488 2121 Fax 071 490 6255

#### PUBLISHING CO. N1

Executive assistant required. Extremely high WP skills on Amiga or WordPerfect for Windows required. Good English skills as the person will be assisting on the production of the monthly catalogue. Salary £16,000 p.a. Please send CV by post or fax (071-704-8442) to J.E. NEEDHAM, Rembrandt House, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 52, 54, 56, 58, 60, 62, 64, 66, 68, 70, 72, 74, 76, 78, 80, 82, 84, 86, 88, 90, 92, 94, 96, 98, 100, 102, 104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 114, 116, 118, 120, 122, 124, 126, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 144, 146, 148, 150, 152, 154, 156, 158, 160, 162, 164, 166, 168, 170, 172, 174, 176, 178, 180, 182, 184, 186, 188, 190, 192, 194, 196, 198, 200, 202, 204, 206, 208, 210, 212, 214, 216, 218, 220, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 248, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260, 262, 264, 266, 268, 270, 272, 274, 276, 278, 280, 282, 284, 286, 288, 290, 292, 294, 296, 298, 300, 302, 304, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314, 316, 318, 320, 322, 324, 326, 328, 330, 332, 334, 336, 338, 340, 342, 344, 346, 348, 350, 352, 354, 356, 358, 360, 362, 364, 366, 368, 370, 372, 374, 376, 378, 380, 382, 384, 386, 388, 390, 392, 394, 396, 398, 400, 402, 404, 406, 408, 410, 412, 414, 416, 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## THEATRE page 40

Fats Waller's life and music are celebrated in *Ain't Misbehavin'* at the Tricycle in Kilburn

## ARTS

## MIME page 41

Silly gestures or high art? Marcel Marceau and friends arrive for London's mime festival



## Famed for his feats of clay



Josiah Wedgwood changed pottery and his world. Dalya Alberge salutes him in his bicentenary year

Josiah Wedgwood, the father of British pottery, died 200 years ago this month. He shaped the world in more ways than one. After he was made, they broke the mould. Wedgwood was a master craftsman who brought the Industrial Revolution to the Pottery, inventing revolutionary methods and materials. He transformed the tableware of Europe and design factories of Britain.

Revolution was Wedgwood's middle name: away from the potter's wheel, he tirelessly campaigned for the emancipation of slaves, even producing a cameo of a manacled black slave inscribed "Am I not a man and a brother?". He was an industrialist who spoke out on working conditions, pioneering ideas about the division of labour and discipline in factories. He insisted that every man, woman and child he employed had a specialist area, however narrow, in which they could excel. As he put it, he "made Artists of mere men".

Although he received little formal education, his insatiable scientific curiosity endeared him to a circle of scholars and inventors as eminent as Erasmus Darwin, Joseph Priestley and James Watt. Wedgwood's story will be told later this year at the Victoria & Albert Museum in a major bicentenary exhibition. It is long overdue: after all, mention Wedgwood today and probably only the distinctive neoclassical blue-and-white porcelain (Jasperware) comes to mind. Today, Wedgwood is a public company with seven factories, employing 6,000 people, and accounting for a quarter of Britain's ceramic tableware industry and its exports.

Admittedly, the fine-grained unglazed Jasperware, developed in the 1770s as a background for white classical reliefs or portraits, was his finest ceramic invention. But although Wedgwood (1730-95) described it as being "of exquisite beauty and delicacy", he would have been shamed to learn that it has so overshadowed hundreds of other designs. There was, for example, his mass-produced Queen's ware, cream-coloured earthenware — more influential in his day — and the 1768 black basaltware that imitated antique and Renaissance objects. There have also been the innovations of today's designers.



Wedgwood's emphasis on up-to-date technology has gone from Josiah's days to (above left and right), 1905 and on to modern times (top)

The vast majority of the factory's design range is original, with the fashion designer Vivienne Westwood and artist Eduardo Paolozzi among the eminent outsiders being commissioned to break down the barriers between fine art, design and — to bring in that inadequately recognised skill — craft. Wedgwood proved that they could be forged together, transforming a cottage industry into an international one (even in his day, he exported to America and Russia).

He himself commissioned artists as eminent as George Stubbs and John Flaxman. He did, however, have to exert some artistic censorship over their designs: naked Greek gods were rather risqué for the faint-hearted English, and Flaxman obligingly made them decent, with gowns and fig-leaves.

Clay had been in Wedgwood's family since the 16th century. He was born in Burslem, Staffordshire, the youngest of 13 children of Thomas and Mary Wedgwood of

the Churchyard Pottery, a modest business with a single oven and workshops in a courtyard bustling with chickens and pigs. From the tender age of nine, Josiah served his apprenticeship, as his contract spelled out, learning "the Art, Mystery, Occupation or Employment of Throwing and Handling".

His childhood porcelain complexion was defaced by virulent smallpox and his body was crippled, eventually leading to the amputation of a leg. It is said that, without a

groan or grimace, he sat and watched two surgeons saw it off. This may have encouraged his interest in experimentation, because he had to find a way of working a potter's wheel without the treadle.

By his mid-twenties he was in partnership with Thomas Whieldon of Fenton, the leading potter of his day. He was already experimenting with glazes and firing techniques in thousands of trials. Within a few years, he had proved himself enough to branch out on his own,

producing large quantities of the distinctive original creamware with a clear green glaze to decorate organic shapes. It was cheap to produce and cheap to buy, as attractive to Europe's middle classes as to the aristocracy.

His 1774 tableware catalogue, his first, featured the bargain-basement offer of eight dozen plates for £1 (weekly wages for painters employed to decorate them ranged from 14 shillings to £4). Such was the demand that contemporary reports talked of the "violent vase madness".

Wedgwood's activities were soon denting the profits of competitors. Even Sevres and Meissen found that if they could not beat him they had to join him, developing equivalent ranges. Meissen, for example, produced the incongruously named "Wedgwoodarbeit" range.

In 1765, Queen Charlotte, George III's consort, gave him the title of "Potter to Her Majesty". Perhaps his most impressive commission came in 1774, with the 952-piece service for Catherine the Great's palace of La Grenouillère in St Petersburg. Each was handpainted with a different British architectural and landscape subject. Some 250 pieces from "The Frog Service" will form the centrepiece of the V&A show, loaned by the Hermitage in St Petersburg.

After Wedgwood's death, the factory passed down through generations of the family, suffering severe dips in its fortunes, notably in the 19th century. By 1980, it had merged with Waterford. Wedgwood would not recognise today's factory, sprawled across a 365-acre parkland site. His imagination would have been fired, so to speak, by the new machinery: after all, Josiah himself invented a device for measuring high temperatures (for which he received a commendation from the Royal Society) and his was the first factory to install a steam-powered engine. "He'd have been pleased to see how much money we're putting into innovation", says Jill Sharrock, creative director.

He would have approved of the "multi-bumping" machine that eases the printing, rather like silk-screening, across uneven surfaces (in 1763, Wedgwood had purchased the then newly invented contraption for transfer-printing). And he would have been amazed by the firing techniques that take 20 minutes to accomplish what once took days in coal-fired kilns.

He would have been particularly impressed by the dust-pressing machine which saves time, money and waste, forcing clay-dust into a mould with water to make a plate. Originally, the plate would have been turned on a wheel and a wet clay mixture poured into moulds. This way, every plate is perfect.

Waste was one of Josiah's obsessions: he fined anyone who left scraps around, and rigorous checks were regularly made. In fact, despite his liberal views (even at first supporting the American and French revolutions), he was quite a task-master: he smashed sub-standard pots and imposed fines for lax behaviour: two shillings would be forfeited by anyone bringing ale into the premises during working hours or "for a person playing fives against any of the walls where there are windows".

In spite of improved equipment and working conditions since Josiah's day, many techniques have changed little. Lines and gold tracery, for example, are still applied by hand. And the company is no longer a design-leader. Its 19 full-time designers are bursting with ideas, but find them curtailed by the conservative tastes of the customer. "Our ranges are designed by evolution rather than revolution," says Keith Williams, head of design.

Josiah Wedgwood would have had something to say about that. The V&A show runs from June 8 to September 17.

## FESTIVAL

## Complex without clutter

The Prodigal Son  
St John's,  
Smith Square

THE time-honoured series of BBC lunchtime concerts is playing its due part in the corporation's Fairfest Isle festival this year, and to prove the point the new season began last Monday with a semi-staged performance by Kent Opera of Benjamin Britten's third church parable, *The Prodigal Son*, composed in 1968 to William Plomer's text. Semi-staged is all it needs to be: anything more than the simplest of actions, apparel or stage accoutrements does this genre, simple and directly communicative on its surface but fashioned with the utmost sophistication, few favours.

On this occasion the message came across with affecting directness, thanks to Tim Carroll's solemnly uncluttered production and to Roger Butlin's necessarily frugal designs. Monks' robes were de rigueur for the solemn entry and procession; otherwise simple shifts and, for the temple of the city and the starving poor, masks and hats, served for costumes. The



Britten: benefits from the production's simple touch

bed in which the Younger Son enjoyed his carnal pleasure was a billowing red sheet held above his head, as if it were the canopy of a luxurious four-poster.

Of course, the radio audience saw none of this. But it will undoubtedly have heard the tinkling of gold coins as they tumbled from his money-bag to pay for all that fun: in the hall these looked marvelous, glistering brilliantly in the light.

The singers were excellent, none more so than Howard Haskin, as the Abbot who also plays the Tempter. His cautionary preface to the action, delivered forthrightly from the back of the hall, caused several audience members to jump half out of their skins. Alan Watt was gently loving as the Father, and Gwion Thomas wisely did not overplay either the self-righteousness or the protestations of the Older Son.

James Oxley, a light-voiced tenor very much suited to Britten's kind of expressive lines, looked and sounded well as the Younger Son. The chorus of Kent Opera, supplemented by boys from the Sackville Choir, sang firmly, and the instrumental ensemble played with character under the unobtrusive direction of Timothy Dean.

STEPHEN PETTITT

## NEW MUSIC: Richard Morrison hears young soloists struggling to make mediocre material sound interesting

For one week every January the Purcell Room becomes a boundless musical prairie where the wild buffalo roam. And some of the buffalo in this week's Park Lane Group Young Artists' Concerts are very wild indeed. Take Henry Cowell, whose *Aeolian Harp* and *Exultation* launched the first recital on Monday, given by the pianist Mark Gasser. *Aeolian Harp* is sheer acoustic delight: the pianist reaches inside the piano and strokes the strings, harp style, while playing chords conventionally on the keyboard (children: don't try this on the upright at home). *Exultation* is an exuberant, clangorous romp, requiring the pianist to smash his elbow down on many notes at once. Painful, no doubt, but all in the cause of art.

Alt, the listener thinks. This

## Same old stunts, with bells on

is avant-garde music, and I am enjoying it. Then he notices the composition dates of these pieces: 1923 and 1919 respectively. He realises that the musical avant-garde is actually older than his parents, and still churning out the same old stunts.

Depressing? Not when compared with the other extreme, by which I mean the music of John White, who is one of this week's featured composers. Gasser played just one of White's piano sonatas; something of a relief, since there are 125 of them. But it was enough. White says that he comes from a contemporary tradition that is "confident in its use of primary tonal colours". What

this apparently means, in the case of Piano Sonata No 65, was a succession of meandering major-chords that a mediocre parish organist with a hang-over might improvise on a wet Sunday morning. If that represents musical "confidence", then someone is playing a confidence trick.

Gasser could display his considerable talent better in Nono's noisy but spectacular *Sofferte onde serene*, a very Italian fantasy on death, life and bells, in which the pianist on stage has the daunting task of duelling with a tape of the great pianist Maurizio Pollini.

PLG Young Artists  
Purcell Room

Finally, Gasser delivered Ronald Stevenson's astonishing *Motus Perpetuus* (?) *Temporibus*.

*Fatalibus*. Crazy name, crazy question-mark. Like those whizzkid Russian ice-dancers, this frenetic "Perpetual" (?) Motion in Fateful Times scores straight sizes for technical merit but rather less for artistic content. Still, what a dazzling way to finish a recital.

Later in the evening, guess what? Two more piano sonatas (Nos 101 and 102) by John White. That leaves just 122 more for the rest of the week. These two were transcribed (by Ian Gardiner) for piano, violin and cello, which made them sound like a Palm Court orchestra that couldn't quite remember all the right notes of a Victorian parlour song. The Goffriller Piano Trio delivered them with apt lugubriousness. But these young players need to project a good deal more character and assurance if they are to convince audiences that edgy, difficult and episodic pieces such as Jonathan Harvey's early Piano Trio are worth hearing.

They shared their recital with the flute player James Dunton and pianist Mark Kinkaid, who are in a more mature and accomplished league. To them fell the first world premiere of several this

week: Julian Anderson's *The Colour of Pomegranate*. You will recognise the title, of course, because — as Anderson reminded us in his programme-note — it refers to a film of the same name by the Armenian director Parajanov in which a peasant plays a melody on his flute while church bells ring. I fear that I shall probably not be rushing to view Mr Parajanov's oeuvre, but Anderson's musical version was beautifully written for a trilling, Eastern-sounding alto flute (the peasant) and an increasingly ecstatic piano (the bells, the bells!).

Anderson's orchestral piece *Dark Night*, which won the Royal Philharmonic Society Prize in 1993, will be premiered by the BBC Symphony Orchestra in April. At 27, he is a composer to watch.

## BRODIE BURNS

## LONDON

Strand Theatre  
Jan 25  
PATRICIA HODGE has been delighting West End audiences with her portrayal of the comic and matronly teacher, Miss Lead Brodie, in the play *Miss Lead Brodie*, and it seems appropriate that a performance of the play should precede a performance of the play *Miss Lead Brodie*.

So join us at the Strand Theatre for a performance of the play *Miss Lead Brodie*, and enjoy a drink on arrival. The play is a comedy of manners, and is based on the life of the playwright, Miss Lead Brodie. The play is a comedy of manners, and is based on the life of the playwright, Miss Lead Brodie. The play is a comedy of manners, and is based on the life of the playwright, Miss Lead Brodie.

## THE TIMES

## THEATRE CLUB

The most of the evening is (15 minutes) of a seat alone (£20). Ring 071-930-3800 to book. We apologise for the mistake in last Saturday's listing for Theatre de Complicité's staging of *The Three Lives of Lucie Cabrol* at the Shaftesbury Theatre. The correct number to book your seats for Jan 18-21 performances is 071-579-5391.







# More mime? Words fail me

As Marcel Marceau and his silent army descend on London, Jeremy Kingston prepares for long nights of silly gestures.

It is impossible to deny that mime is the silliest art form, sillier even than ballet which in its most arresting moments it resembles. Practitioners of both do the equivalent of cutting off a leg in order to hop a race, and come forward at the end to solicit applause for doing elegantly what it was perverse of them to attempt in the first place.

And yet, and yet — but no, I'm not ready yet to exhaust the absurdities of these genres. The London International Mime Festival opens this coming Saturday for two weeks of performances by 21 solo artists and companies, and instead of addressing the question that is regularly asked — "Mime: whither?" — I should like to find the answer to "Mime: why?"

It is an ancient art form, of course. They did it in Greece, intermittently throughout the Middle Ages and in Renaissance Italy. They did it in Japan and other Eastern places, and they have kept doing it in Paris since Jean-Louis Barrault reinvented mime for *Les Enfants du Paradis* and hopped about on a small stage looking lovelorn in white sleeves too large for him. Instead of behaving naturally — like Barrault himself, in the same film but out of white-face, saying to the woman he loves, "Comme vous êtes belle" — a mime must flutter his hands and toss his head, expel the bones from his body and droop.

The style is so desperately limiting. And plain desperate, some of the time. A flip through the pages of the LIMF programme shows the same old descriptive phrases — "the absurdity of human conventions", "issues of sexuality and identity are confronted", "a labyrinth where all paths are open". Haven't we all seen these conventions, those conventions, that labyrinth, over and over? The little man at odds with society, fate, life itself, battling against an imagined wind, eccentric, quaint, silent. This year we even have Marcel "Bip", Marceau, coming, to the Queen Elizabeth Hall, to remind us that life offers nothing but frustration to a man in a striped T-shirt and circumflex eyebrows, even if his outfit does sometimes run to a red flower in his hat.

"Oh, but mime offers infinitely more than that," the advocates tell us. "It's so various. It will explore any situation you can imagine. It doesn't even have to be silent these days." This is true. You will hear mime artists uttering squeaks and hoots and even words, can you believe it, here and there, now and then, though seldom words ordered into dialogue.

Yet the underlying argument for mime is today what it has always been: less is more. By reducing verbal language to almost or abso-

lute zero the mime, it is argued, expresses the essence of feeling.

There is certainly some truth in this. In any conversation an eyebrow silently raised, a mouth pursed, a shoulder shrugged, will utter, as they say, volumes. But a volume consisting of eyebrows, pursed mouths and eloquent shoulders will necessarily be a slim one, and this is my chief complaint about mime. The feelings it takes such self-denying pains to express are nearly always unutterably (sic) pure. Purely heroic, purely rapturous, purely daft, with none of the in-between colours that make our responses to living so muddled, so muddy and so absorbing.

Stepping sideways into ballet for a moment, I once saw a performance of Turgenev's play *A Month in the Country* within a few weeks of seeing the ballet. Ashton turned it into. The contrast was shocking. Yes, the Chopin was delightful, the dancing delectable and expressions of desire, jealousy and grief passed across the faces of the dancers. But the play's thrilling complexity was nowhere. Likewise, mime illumines a

**The style is desperately limiting, and sometimes just desperate**

portion of experience and disdains the remainder.

Perhaps it is because mime reduces expression to the vocabulary of gesture that performances generally end by fizzling out. Characters may die but somebody is left on the stage to give a last shrug at the waywardness of life. A wry smile and a quiet exit. And yet... when I first saw Trestle it was presenting John Wright's production of *The Three Lives of Lucie Cabrol* for the Shaftesbury. The cast play chickens, cows lowing in their stalls, even the earth of a ploughed field, rolling over as the blade passes them. Watching the swift creative details of these pretences is as fascinating as I dare say I will find: once again, Marceau's elaborate illusions with non-existent matter. Such pretences are liberating. Flesh can be all too solid, and to escape from its confining logic is a longing that mime (and dance too, I may as well admit) can vicariously satisfy.

I just hope it doesn't come with a topping of whimsy, that's all.

*Goblin Market*, and the photograph in the programme looks attractively grisly.

Only a minority of mime groups use masks nowadays, but feigning the rules of logic may be what gives mime its curious appeal. All right, every art form defies some logic, strictly defined. Nobody on *Lammermuir* normally dies singing. But representing the act of, for example, tying a tie when nothing material exists between the fingers is a profoundly absurd piece of behaviour. What is the value in doing it?

I suggest an answer lies in the stimulus of seeing people use their bodies illogically. In one kind of mime the pretence is that the empty air is as substantial as a necktie, prison wall or whatever, and the body is going through the appropriate motions. The other kind treats the body as though it had taken on another form of being.

A supreme example of the second will be on view from next week when Theatre de Complicite, not participating in the festival this year, revives *The Three Lives of Lucie Cabrol* for the Shaftesbury. The cast play chickens, cows lowing in their stalls, even the earth of a ploughed field, rolling over as the blade passes them.

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● The London International Mime Festival runs from Saturday to January 29. Information: 071-637 5661



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Silent stars: Marcel Marceau (top left); Théâtre de l'Ange fou in *The Man Who Preferred to Stand* (lower left). Right, from the top: Marionette from Sweden in *Ghost Sonata*; The People Show; and The Glee Club

## ARTS BRIEFING

### Gold for Sir Colin

NEXT month Sir Colin Davis joins the elite band of conductors — Beecham, Toscanini, Karajan, Boult, Solti and Haitink among them — who have been awarded the Royal Philharmonic Society's Gold Medal. Davis will receive the medal at the Barbican on February 19, during a London Symphony Orchestra concert at which he will conduct the world premiere of Sir Michael Tippett's new (and final) orchestral work, *The Rose Lake*. Tippett, who himself won the medal in 1976, will make the presentation.

● WHAT is billed as the "biggest television series ever produced in Britain" will make its small-screen debut in March. It is Gerry Anderson's *Space Precinct*, a 21st-century adventure series about two New York policemen who are sent on an exchange programme to a far-off galaxy. With a budget of £23 million, the show parades a range of advanced special effects created by British technicians at Pinewood and Shepperton Studios. It will be shown first on BSkyB and then on BBC TV in the autumn.

### Ludwig in love

GARY Oldman, best known for portraying the short-lived punk star Sid Vicious in *Sid and Nancy*, depicts an even more significant musical rebel in a film to be released in Britain this March. He plays Beethoven in *Immortal Beloved*, written and directed by the British director Bernard Rose, and also starring Isabella Rossellini as the Countess Anna Maria Erdödy, and Barry Humphries as the Austrian Chancellor Metternich.

The soundtrack comes with impeccable credentials: it is conducted by Sir Georg Solti and includes such distinguished soloists as Murray Perahia and Yo Yo Ma. Oldman and Rossellini, who met on the set, have subsequently announced their engagement.

● BIDDING is expected to be intense in New York today as a newly rediscovered bronze figure of Cleopatra, claimed as the work of the great 16th-century Florentine sculptor Benvenuto Cellini, goes under the hammer at Sotheby's. The claim, made by Professor Peter Mellor of Santa Barbara University, is based on examination of an inventory of Cellini's studio at the time of his death.

"Dr Mellor's arguments are extremely convincing in confirming the tentative links to Cellini made by other scholars," said Elizabeth Wilson, Sotheby's director of Renaissance sculpture. There are fewer than 15 surviving Cellini sculptures in existence.

### Cape and chorus

ZORRO, the swashbuckling do-gooder of Spanish California immortalised in more than a dozen films, is due for a comeback this year. Steven Spielberg is shooting a \$40 million film of the Zorro legend with Sean Connery and Andy Garcia. But before then, the black-masked, cape-wearing hero visits the Theatre Royal Stratford East when *Zorro — The Musical* receives its world premiere.

Ken Hill, who gave the world the stage version of *The Invisible Man*, is responsible for Zorro's musical incarnation, which is based on the original 1919 comic strip characters and uses traditional zarzuela music with lyrics by Hill, who also directs. Previews start on February 4; opening night is February 14.

ROCK: David Thomas, cult hero behind the fondly remembered Pere Ubu, tells Guy Walters about his latest assault on the humdrum



"I'm perfectly happy to destroy the entire performance on a whim," David Thomas says. "My audiences find this exciting"

## Nothing old — that's something new

David Thomas is a big American with no time for English small talk. Ask him, as some form of conversational ice-breaker, if he likes living in London, and he'll say: "Yeah. Sure. I live here. I've collected furniture, I've collected computers; it's a lot of trouble to move."

Thomas was brought up in Cleveland, Ohio, where in the 1970s he formed Pere Ubu, a group that won a cult following with rock that initially sounded a mess, but on closer inspection revealed itself to be a strangely cohesive thing. Certainly, Thomas's lyrics were surreal: "Some hats tumble/And fly through the air/Some hats sit on foam heads/And stare/Owevwee."

You simply can't ask a man who writes like that about recycling initiatives in his adopted Wandsworth.

Pere Ubu first stopped in 1982, but Thomas has resurrected it on a number of occasions, the most recent being last year, with the recording of *Ray Gun Suitcase*. He has also worked in a variety of eccentric formats with other musicians, touring extensively throughout Europe.

Thomas's latest offering, besides remastering the extensive Pere Ubu back catalogue for imminent re-release by "a major record company", is an

oufit called David Thomas and 2 Pale Boys, which is now five gigs old. The direction is this: "A song is best the first two to three times it's played, when the musicians playing it are excited by discovery and eager for fulfilment. The object of 2 Pale Boys is to achieve this on a regular basis."

But doesn't this smack of (dread word) improvisation? "I don't like improvisation: it's too self-indulgent," Thomas says. "The point of what we do is that we work around songs — you spontaneously generate the songs."

That still sounds like improvisation. "The difference is... I don't know. Usually improvisation has to do with some sort of jazz thing which is alien to me. The differences may be, but Thomas's songs still rely on the rock form of verse and chorus. So, you get all the good stuff (structure, focus and applied dynamics) without any of the bad (tedium, indulgence and predictability)." Good.

Naturally, Thomas could spend the rest of his nights thrashing out a Pere Ubu set, but spontaneous song generation suits his on-stage persona better. "The strength and weakness of my performance is that you really do have the sensation there's a human

being in front of you that is totally subject to mood: it can all fall apart at any point and usually it will.

"If I'm in a bad mood and something is bothering me, I'm perfectly happy to destroy the entire performance on a whim. Generally, my audiences find this exciting."

But what about his fellow musicians, don't they get a little annoyed with this? "They get used to it. The good part is that I'll try to ruin the performance for a couple of songs and then I'll start feeling guilty — for the audience of course, because they've paid their money. But the musicians get paid — they don't care."

It seems appropriate that Thomas has settled in Britain, the land of glorious amateurism. "I have no professional graces," he says. "I don't particularly care if the show is a mess or not, I don't feel a professional thing in keeping the facade going — all I care about is the performance, which I'm willing to destroy."

So is Thomas a singer or a performer? "I'm a singer. I'm a rock singer. But these divisions are alien culture to me. I smacks of Artism."

Thomas is defiantly anti-art and anti-categorisation. He cites music as the only pure art form, because, he claims, "all

visual art is based on deception and is a totally inferior form, only marginally lower in the social scale than used-car men and actors." What about fiction? "All fiction does is to give you something to do on the transatlantic flight as far as I'm concerned."

Thomas is aware of his flippancy, but he does have a mentality that rejects popular notions. "If something is popularly held to be true, then my rule is that if you look in the opposite direction you'll find the real truth. Common wisdom to me is a sure sign of falsity."

So what does Thomas get up to when he's not attempting to destroy his own performance? Rehearse? "No. I work at computers and things a lot. I've learnt the authoring language for creating CD-Rom. I've been working on that for a year and I'm about to start putting it to serious use."

He also writes articles. What about? "Siberia. Elvis. Other things. Fringe rock music, social, cultural articles."

What did he write about Siberia? "I've always been interested in the issue of isolation and growth of musical form. I wanted to get out to Siberia as this wave of commercial rockism was reaching it, and obliterated the natural form rock had taken there."

Was the article published? "No. I guess it was a bit dense."

● David Thomas and 2 Pale Boys are at the Sausage Machine, The Russell Arms, Liddington Place, London NW1 6JF 071-637 5268, on Friday. There will be a UK tour in March.



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# Catt napped by Rowell in unchanged England

Dennis Easby, the president of the BFL, said that he did

The other areas of debate in the team were scrum half, where Kyran Bracken's speed of pass won him the vote ahead of Dewi Morris, and back row, where England keep faith with their three No 8s in a team which, they hope, will carry them successfully through this championship and the World Cup.

**Catt can expect to be the focus of Irish eyes when England begin their year in the hothouse of Lansdowne Road**

Tony Underwood, Jason Leonard and Victor Obogu will be resolved in training this weekend. The team management has already reached agreement with leading clubs that players will be released from league duty, but no more than three from any one club: Bath and Leicester each give four to England and will be entitled to decide which of the quarter they will field against, respec-

tively. Northampton and Orrell.

Rowell expects Dean Richards and Catt to play, but Catt, who suffered from a throat infection last week, hopes that the traditional weekend off for a "debutant" will be granted him by Bath, even though they are short of cover at stand-off. Leonard, who turned an ankle training in Lanzarote, has expressed the wish to play for

**Harlequins against Wasps.** Should he withdraw, Graham Rowntree, of Leicester, will win his first cap.

**ENGLAND Students:** Iv Hall (Studeo), Paul Loebe (January 30), T. Simpson (Durham), J. Naylor (Nissan and Lough College), M. Allen (Loughborough), M. Denney (Bristol), A. Hesley (Leeds Metropolitan), & Howard (West London H.E.), A. Marshall (Oxford Brookes), & M. Kelly (Thames Valley). **WASPS:** G. Leach (Green College Broome), M. Corry (Northumbria), G. Webster (Loughborough), R. Bramley (Cambridge, captain), N. Richardson (Cambridge), & P. Hall (Loughborough).

(Bristol), S Johnson (Bath), D Naceo (Qdoland, Brookings), M Long (Northampton)  
A Meadowood (Cambridge), A Meston (Cambridge).  
ENGLAND A Iv Ireland, A Donnybrook (January 20); M Leplastrier (Gloucester); H Hopley (Wessex), S Potter (Leicestershire), R Greenwell (Wessex), J Slaghtman (Wessex), G Grayson (Wessex), J Baines (Wessex), captain; R Hardwick (Coventry) M Riegan (Bristol), J Mallett (Bath), L Deleffo (Wessex), G Archer (Newcastle), G Gossling, S Shaw (Bristol), N Bookall (Wessex), J Baines (Wessex), J Baines (Wessex), J Thomeycroft (Northampton), J Harris (Leicestershire), R Mitham (Hampshire), R Hill (Saracens), R Coates (Hampshire), D Gerloff (Leicestershire).

But it is the football people who get most fed up with. True, no one can complain about the skill and appetite of the forwards, Shearer and Sutton. In a few months, they have become halves of a pair, sum greater and more deadly than the two parts. But that's for the glories of Blackburn. Whack the ball to those two and let them get on with it. Well, why not? It works.

But it is winning ugly. It is Reference Point football.

But let us strive for fairness, perhaps even a little logic. Blackburn are entitled to cultivate their garden as they wish. Let us call in the well-known football writer Voltaire: "I disapprove of what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it."

That is almost the last word on Blackburn. But Cantona — no doubt he reads Voltaire — can reply: "*Le mieux est l'ennemi du bien.*" The best is the enemy of the good.

And then you have Dalglish himself, and his carefully cultivated quality of sneering banality. His every reply is a careful insult to the questioner. You can get fed up with

### MIDWEEK VIEW

**SIMON  
BARNES**

That is almost the last word on Blackburn. But Cantona — no doubt he reads Voltaire — can reply: "*Le mieux est l'ennemi du bien.*" The best is the enemy of the good.



## Cannons shoot clear in race for play-offs

**SKI CLUB**

**RESULTS:** Raclette 0, Grönroos 3 (Raclette plays first). P Johnson lost to P Hood 6-7, 7-4, 0-6, 0-6. D Webb lost to D Parke 3-7, 7-4, 7-4, 0-6. R Cress lost to T Ward 4-6, 6-3, 6-3, 6-3. D Ogmore Valley 5-1, JCL, Linn Harte 3 (Dragone plays first). Ml Cume lost to Ml Weller 9-2, 4-6, 6-3, 6-3. Whitehill 2, R Horman 2-3, 7-9, 6-3, 6-3. C Ven der Walle lost to M Chandler 3-7, 7-9, 0-6, 0-6. Effe Stockholms Lindblad 1. R Bace Weller 9-2, 4-6, 6-3, 6-3. S Meads lost to D Harte 7-9, 6-3, 3-6, 6-3. A Kindred lost to A Nicolls 4-6, 6-3, 7-9, 6-3. J Hill Sports Northern 1. Walsar Hamstead Manchester 2, Northern plays first. A H Dill 2-6, 6-3, 6-3, 6-3. A Gough lost to T Taylor 7-9, 6-3, 6-3, 6-3. Lost to N Taylor 1-10, 9-4, 3-6, 9-3, 7-9.

|            | P | W | L | Pts |
|------------|---|---|---|-----|
| Carlton    | 7 | 0 | 0 | 18  |
| Walsar     | 7 | 0 | 0 | 18  |
| Wards      | 4 | 4 | 3 | 12  |
| Langfold   | 4 | 4 | 4 | 10  |
| Walsar     | 2 | 2 | 2 | 8   |
| Manchester | 2 | 2 | 2 | 8   |
| Raclette   | 1 | 1 | 8 | 5   |
| Grönroos   | 3 | 1 | 8 | 5   |

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# Support for European Breeders' Day

By JULIAN MUSCAT

THE concept of a high-profile European Breeders' Day received significant support yesterday from both Lord Harrington, chairman of the British Horseracing Board (BHB), and Rhidian Morgan-Jones, chairman of the Thoroughbred Breeders' Association (TBA), whose members will almost certainly be asked to help to finance such a project.

The aim is to stage five group one races and two valuable handicaps that would offer a new showcase for the sport. The day is not expected to clash with the annual running of the Breeders' Cup, itself the inspiration behind the project.

Outlines of the event, which has been tentatively scheduled to commence next year, were presented to representatives of the European Pattern Committee in Dublin yesterday.

In welcoming the new proposals, Harrington said he was keen to see the event complement the existing Pattern system in Europe, rather than detract from it. "If it can be made to work for the benefit of all of us in Europe, including Britain — then we would be all for it," he said. The Breeders' Cup has worked, but it was created before the Americans set much store on their Pattern system. The European Pattern is very important to our racing.

Plans to establish a similar event three years ago foundered on the Pattern issue. But the new pilot scheme, outlined

in Dublin yesterday by France's director of international racing, Louis Romanet, allows for flexibility in creating the necessary races. Much depends on the timing of the event; a day towards the end of the season could see the running of new races specifically for it.

"In recent years, there have been various ideas put forward," Harrington said. "The Pattern made it difficult then, so we need to weigh up the pluses and minuses of the new one. There were too many minuses last time, but I understand Michel Henochowicz [president of the TBA equivalent in France] is keen on it and he is a very imaginative

man. I look forward to hearing about it." Paul Groves, the BHB's director of racing who represented British interests at yesterday's European Pattern Committee meeting, will tell Harrington that Germany has been chosen to stage the first running.

The event is scheduled to revolve annually among the Pattern committee's five member countries. Britain and France would stage the meeting twice for every one day

hosted by Ireland, Germany and Italy.

In voicing his support, Morgan-Jones stressed the need for the concept to be properly brokered to all interested countries. One possible source of revenue is the introduction of a small levy on all foals born in Europe. This is the registration scheme employed in the United States by Breeders' Cup Ltd.

Failure to nominate the scheme results in significantly increased entry fees to races on Breeders' Cup Day. These extra costs will shortly apply to all European entrants, which were previously exempted under a special arrangement.

The Breeders' Cup board is expected to sanction these 350 per cent increases later this month, but there remains an outside chance that entry fees could be set even higher. Such a move would increase pressure on Europeans to press ahead with their own European Breeders' Day.

Speaking at the annual TBA Luncheon Awards in London yesterday, Morgan-Jones said British breeders have always wanted a high-profile day to promote their stock. "We are prepared to consider a levy on foals if such a day can be properly organised," he said.

"The bigger the pots, the easier it will be to promote. In a strange sort of way, our season goes a bit flat after Royal Ascot. And we would welcome the chance to focus the sporting attention on racing," he added.



Lord Harrington is keen to see the event complement the Pattern system

## Cough rules out Amigos for The Ladbroke

By DICK HINDER

AMIGOS, Britain's best-backed contender for The Ladbroke, yesterday ruled out of Saturday's big Irish race at Leopardstown because of coughing.

As low as 8-1 with William Hill, the seven-year-old was withdrawn from Europe's richest handicap hurdle when vets scoped the horse after Jimmy Fitzgerald worked him at Malton.

The late withdrawal is a double blow to his part owner, Peter O'Sullivan, who was set to commentate on the race live for BBC Grandstand on Saturday. He will now switch to Ascot.

O'Sullivan said: "It is bitterly disappointing but Amigos coughed a couple of times and the subsequent scope was unfavourable."

"The same thing happened on the eve of his run at Kempton on Boxing Day and now he has done it again just days before The Ladbroke, when he appeared to have a good chance."

"We weren't rushing him back. He came back on his own account. A blood test last Thursday was fine and as a result, we backed him."

"He was entered at Ascot as well on Saturday as a precaution, but we will now

have to postpone all plans while he recovers. My trip will be cancelled too and I will switch back to Ascot for the BBC."

Britain will now be represented by the Jacqui Doyle hope, Fatack, and Kadastrof, trained by Robin Dickin. The pair remain 10-1 and 16-1 chances respectively with the sponsors.

Among those who were backed yesterday were Cockney Lad, 7-2 favourite from 4-1, Tropical Lake, 8-1 from 10-1, and Family Way, 8-1 from 14-1.

Amigos's withdrawal reduces Mark Dwyer's options for Saturday. The jockey now only has to choose between riding at Cheltenham, where Fluke Dove is due to compete, and Ascot, where Fitzgerald's Uncle Ernie and Sybilian are intended runners in the Victor Chandler Handicap Chase.

The Levy Board has agreed to fund an additional eight fixtures during February and March to replace those lost since last April. They are: Market Rasen, February 6; Carlisle, 27; Newcastle, 27; Edinburgh, March 6; Bangor, 7; Huntingdon, 13; Uxbridge, 20; Stratford 21.

| KELSO                 |                        |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
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| 1.10 Bayouge          | 2.40 Oakley            |
| 1.40 Fret             | 3.10 Hudson Bay Trader |
|                       | 3.40 Dancing Dove      |

| GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD                             |   |
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Gough's injury tarnishes first triumph of tour against Australia

# Hick strengthens England's hopes of place in finals

FROM JOHN WOODCOCK IN MELBOURNE

THIS is much more like it. England's moral victory in the third Test match last week and their defeat of Zimbabwe over the weekend were followed here yesterday by the first success of their tour, in any sort of match, against Australia. They beat them by 37 runs, the batting of Hick and the bowling of Fraser paving the way.

To pull off such a timely and ultimately convincing win after making a bad start and having to make do without the bowling of Gough was splendid. They should reach the finals of the World Series Cup now — to prevent that, Australia will need to beat them by a wideish margin in Sydney tomorrow — and that, too, if they manage it, will keep the momentum going.

Australia rested McDermott, which was obviously a help to England, and Warne was fairly subdued, his arm low enough for those concerned about his shoulder to be just a little anxious. McGrath bowled well and Mark Waugh effectively, but Robertson and Law were encouragingly ordinary. It could have been a salutary defeat for Australia, for England, it was most certainly a fillip.

England chose to bat and were soon in trouble. Gough was out in the fourth over, caught, as he often is these days, at slip. If it is not there, it is at the wicket. He is having one of his bad traits, as much as anything, I think, because his confidence is low. Even when his was the wicket that the West Indian fast bowlers prized more than any in the world, he was heavy on his feet.

His way of coping with them relied as much on eye and height and judgment of what, and what not, to play, as

on footwork; but it relied most of all on confidence. It is good to hear that Alec Stewart's finger is mending well; with his present problems, Gough might be happier down the order. Perhaps Crawley could open tomorrow?

Coming on at 31 for one, to bowl the twelfth over, Mark Waugh took a wicket with his first and ninth balls. Atherton was caught at square cover, choosing the wrong one to drive, and Thorpe at wicket down the leg side, trying to help something on its way. This was idle of Thorpe, but it gave Fairbrother the chance to begin his rehabilitation.

Pretty well he took it, too. While he and Hick were averting another collapse and adding 89 together in 17 overs, their late cutting and running between the wickets were a revelation. Although the absence of slips in the one-day game invites the cut, the most delicate and delightful of strokes, modern bats are so heavy that it is rarely seen. Fairbrother was, in fact, caught at the wicket, aiming to cut Warne — or anyway to run him down to third man — the bounce of the ball being steeper here than in Johannesburg, where he has been playing his cricket this winter.

Crawley came in with 19 overs left, time enough for him to give himself a sight of the ball, but he chased the seventh over, an all-the-way outswinger, and gave Healy his third catch in a row. When Rhodes quickly followed, unluckily leg-before, Gough came and made Hick a bonny, telling and occasionally outrageous partner. I hate the reverse sweep with a passion, but Gough played one against Robertson, bowling little off cutters by then, that had him swinging himself almost off his feet and went second bounce for four. It was quite disarming.

Of the 74 he and Hick added, Gough's share was 44. With nine balls left, Hick was caught at long-off, having played by some way the best innings of the match. Yet, of the 120 balls he received, he hit only two for four, a sure sign of how hard Australia



Gough is helped from the field after suffering a stress fracture of the foot yesterday

would have to work for victory.

Carrying on where he left off in the Sydney Test match, Fraser very soon reduced Australia to 19 for three. Moving the new ball about, he bowled Slater with a beauty, found an outswinger for Steve Waugh, off which Rhodes laid a fine, diving catch, and caused Taylor to sky an attempted hook. In Gough's absence Gough did yeoman service with his medi-

um pace; Hick and Udall bowled their off breaks tidily, and DeFreitas got his outswinger to swing.

While Mark Waugh was there, Australia were not out of it, though the pitch, like the outfield, was slow enough to make an asking rate of anything approaching six an over very demanding. Law looked as though he could play; Boon buzzed around; Healy, as is his wont, was a nuisance, and

Warne showed again what a useful batsman he is going to make.

But from the moment that Mark Waugh chopped Hick's third ball into his stumps England could expect to win. In doing so, they were helped by a brilliant catch from Atherton at short mid-wicket, and by the spirit of redemption. In a tortuous sort of way, the tour is looking up.

## MELBOURNE SCOREBOARD

| England                                | 1st Innings | 2nd Innings |
|--|-------------|-------------|
| G A Gough c Taylor b McGrath           | 2           |             |
| M A Atherton c S R Waugh b M E Waugh   | 11          |             |
| G A Hick c P R Warne b M E Waugh       | 84          |             |
| G P Thorpe c Healy b M E Waugh         | 8           |             |
| N H Fairbrother c Healy b Warne        | 36          |             |
| J P Crawley c Healy b McGrath          | 2           |             |
| Y S Rhodes b McGrath                   | 2           |             |
| D Gough b McGrath                      | 45          |             |
| P A J DeFreitas not out                | 1           |             |
| S D Udall not out                      | 2           |             |
| Extras (b 4, lb 10, w 6, nb 2)         | 22          |             |
| Total (18 wickets, 50 overs, 204 mins) | 120         |             |
| Australia                              | 1st Innings | 2nd Innings |
| M A Taylor c Rhodes b Fraser           | 6           |             |
| M J Slater b Fraser                    | 2           |             |
| M E Waugh b Hick                       | 41          |             |
| S R Waugh c Rhodes b Fraser            | 0           |             |
| S G Law c and b Udall                  | 17          |             |
| D G Boon b Hick                        | 26          |             |
| H A Healy c Atherton b Hick            | 66          |             |
| G R Robertson run out                  | 1           |             |
| S K Warne b Fraser                     | 21          |             |
| D W Fleming not out                    | 5           |             |
| G D McGrath b DeFreitas                | 10          |             |
| Extras (b 3)                           | 3           |             |
| Total (18 wickets, 204 mins)           | 120         |             |

| England                                | 1st Innings | 2nd Innings |
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| G A Gough c Taylor b McGrath           | 2           |             |
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| G P Thorpe c Healy b M E Waugh         | 8           |             |
| N H Fairbrother c Healy b Warne        | 36          |             |
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| Extras (b 3)                           | 3           |             |
| Total (18 wickets, 204 mins)           | 120         |             |

## Tailenders lend support to Gallian

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

THE England A team was stumped off by the Indian Board President's XI in Madras yesterday and the invitation XI will start the final day of the four-day match 237 ahead with eight second-innings wickets in hand.

After beginning at 131 for four, England A were bowled out for 247 by a three-man spin attack. The home team then built on a lead of 86 by scoring 151 for two and is well placed to force a win ahead of the first five-day international, starting in Bangalore on Saturday.

The three spinners shared nine wickets, with the off-spinner, Karwarth Singh, of Hyderabad, finishing with four for 56. The left-arm, Utpal Chatterjee, took three for 56 and Sairaj Bahutule's leg breaks galled him two for 65.

Jason Gallian, of Lancashire, batting at No 3, played almost a lone hand for the touring team. He converted his overnight 36 into 79, an innings spanning five hours

40 minutes and 280 balls, before being ninth out, stumped off by Bahutule. England A would have been further behind had not Ian Salisbury and Richard Johnson used the long handle effectively to give Gallian much needed support.

Salisbury and Kent's Bombay-born left-arm spinner, Min Patel, each took a wicket when the President's XI batted again, although Salisbury's seven overs cost 57 runs.

The President's captain,

Vikram Rathore, played some lovely strokes in his 42, but it was the unbeaten 58-run stand between Saurav Ganguly and Rahul Dravid that pushed England A almost out of contention. Ganguly reached his half-century just before the close.

England A will definitely be without Mark Ilett, the Essex left-arm fast bowler, for the first international and there are fears that he might not be able to bowl again on tour because of a side injury.

England A will definitely be

It is only a week since Ilett left Australia after acting as a stand-by for the senior side for a fortnight. Now he seems to have been struck down by the same injury jinx that has been such a cruel companion to Atherton's party.

"Mark is usually a good healer, so let's hope he comes through," the England A physiotherapist, Wayne Morton, said. "But he's definitely in no shape to play in the first international of our three-match series here, and side injuries are always big problems for fast bowlers."

"He's getting ice and ultrasound treatment and trying to do some stretching exercises. I will know more about whether he can recover quickly during the match in Bangalore."

"But there is a chance that he may have to go home if he doesn't improve by then."

India A squad of 14 for the series against contains four Test players, including the captain, Praveen Amre.

## McGrath establishes position of strength

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

A MAGNIFICENT innings of 169 by Anthony McGrath, of Yorkshire, in 339 minutes helped the England under-19 team to a strong position on the second day of its tour match with Trinidad and Tobago at the Gilbert Oval.

McGrath's innings included 15 fours and one six. He scored 63, added 128 in 132 minutes. Scott Ellis, of Worcestershire, hit a rapid 34 before England were all out for 391, which gave them a lead of 202.

Left with 13 overs to face, Trinidad lost two wickets and ended play on 30 for two with a day to play.

Kim Barnett announced yesterday that he will be stepping down as captain of Derbyshire at the end of the summer. Barnett, who is the county's longest-serving captain, was appointed captain at the age of 22 in 1963. During his reign, Derbyshire won the

Sunday League, in 1990, and the Benson and Hedges Cup, three years later, but they have struggled for the past two seasons in the championship.

Barnett admitted that a lack of commitment from what he described as a "small minority of players" had been partly responsible for recent underachievement and he insisted that standards would be improved this summer.

"I am looking forward to 1995," he said. "I intend to re-establish the standards of professionalism that we initiated many years ago and that perhaps have been compromised in more recent times by a small minority."

Jason Ratcliffe has left Warwickshire, who won three trophies last summer, and signed a two-year contract with Surrey. Ratcliffe, 25, a batsman, made only two championship appearances last season, after scoring 999 first-class runs in 1993.

## RADIO CHOICE

# A breath of steam radio

Victoria Station, Radio 4, 2.00pm.

If you miss the opening seconds of Steve Chambers's second play about a crisis-ridden railway station, you may feel disoriented by it all. What is the stationmaster's daughter doing sporting bloniers in public? Why must the porters wear black ties and line up for inspection? Why are the local Purty League women chaining themselves to the locomotive? And why are a gang of playlayers complaining that the station tunnel is haunted? The reason for this uncharacteristic (by 1990s standards) behaviour is that Chambers has turned back the pages of railway history to the year 1895. Breathe in deeply and you might be able to smell that lovely old steam.

Unbroken Voices, Radio 4, 2.45pm.

I am becoming addicted to these compilations of children's voices. They express hope in the future even when adults would say that the short-term prospects do not inspire much enthusiasm. The wishes of these youngsters from many parts of the world are modest. In a greed-powered society, how refreshing it is to hear a little girl saying, without a hint of false piety, that all she and her brother need to keep them happy is some grass and some sticks. Today's edition is about childhood and the environment. There is a resonant slogan from a young lad who has no idea that he just created one: "The earth is not a legacy from our parents; it is something we have to give to our sons and daughters."

## RADIO 1

6.55am Steve Wright 9.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Lisa L'Amour with the Lunchtime Show, incl at 12.30-12.45pm Newsbeat 2.00 Nicky Campbell 4.00 Mark Goodier, incl at 5.30-5.45pm Newsbeat 7.00 Evening Session 9.00 Big from Last Week's Radio, with Greg Proops 10.00 Mark Radcliffe, with music and conversation from Manchester, and Mark Radcliffe's Out Moves Midnight Lynn Parsons

## RADIO 2

6.55am Martin Kelner 8.15 Pauline Holt 9.00 Sarah Kennedy 9.15 Pauline Holt 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 Jimmy Young 2.00pm Debbie Greenwood 3.30 Ed Stewart 5.00 John Dunn 7.00 Jim Lloyd, with Janet Russell and Christine Joyce 8.30 World-Wide Concerts: Jewish traditional music from the Bunting Burn 8.30 Songs Sung in 1911 9.00 Anita Shallet's Across the Cultures: story-teller Vayu Naidu 9.30 Nigel Ogden: The Organist Entertains 10.30 The Jamesons 12.00am Steve Madden 3.00-4.00 Alex Lester

## RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports 6.00 The Breakfast Programme with Peter Allen, incl at 6.55 and 7.55pm Racing Preview 8.30 The Mags with Diana Madsen, incl at 10.35pm Euronews 11.00 Natural History 12.00 Midday with Mark, incl at 12.30pm 12.30pm with Moneycheck 2.00 Radio 5 with the 4.00 John Inverdale Nationwide 7.00 News Extra, incl at 7.20 the day's sport in 10 7.30 Trevor Brooking's Football Night: highlights from Liverpool v Arsenal at Anfield 10.05 News Talk, with Jeremy Vine 11.00 Night Extra, incl at 11.45 The Financial World Tonight 12.05 After Hours, with Cecile Malone 2.05 Up All Night, with Rhod Sharp

## RADIO 3

6.55am Weather 7.00 On Air: with Andrew McGregor, 7.05 Purcell (Fantasia in D), 7.15-7.30: Kreisler (Grand Quatre in C), 7.30-7.45: Kreisler (Grand Quatre in C), 7.45-8.00: Kreisler (Grand Quatre in C), 8.00-8.15: Kreisler (Grand Quatre in C), 8.15-8.30: Kreisler (Grand Quatre in C), 8.30-8.45: Kreisler (Grand Quatre in C), 8.45-9.00: Kreisler (Grand Quatre in C), 9.00-9.15: Kreisler (Grand Quatre in C), 9.15-9.30: Kreisler (Grand Quatre in C), 9.30-9.45: Kreisler (Grand Quatre in C), 9.45-10.00: Kreisler (Grand Quatre in C), 10.00-10.15: Kreisler (Grand Quatre in C), 10.15-10.30: Kreisler (Grand Quatre in C), 10.30-10.45: Kreisler (Grand Quatre in C), 10.45-11.00: Kreisler (Grand Quatre in C), 11.00-11.15: Kreisler (Grand Quatre in C), 11.15-11.30: Kreisler (Grand Quatre in C), 11.30-11.45: Kreisler (Grand Quatre in C), 11.45-12.00: Kreisler (Grand Quatre in C), 12.00-12.15: Kreisler (Grand Quatre in C), 12.15-12.30: Kreisler (Grand Quatre in C), 12.30-12.45: Kreisler (Grand Quatre in 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# At the third joke, it will be 0.95, precisely

In a darkened room filled with 11th-century peasants, a newsreel projector flickers, operated by a solemn priest in a mitre. The peasants don't eat popcorn or Malters. But it's a close-run thing. The film is *Pilgrims in Arms*, a black-and-white armchair recruitment device, and its crusading message is literally a message about crusading. "Your bishop says — GO!" booms a newsreel male voice, familiar from the days of *Monty Python*: "your Pope says — GO!" Meanwhile Terry Jones stands beside the projector, commenting straight to camera on the stars of the forthcoming historical attraction, namely the First Crusade. "That's Hugh of France," he confides, as yet another knight in chain-mail hogs the screen. "He thinks rather a lot of himself. He's another one on the make."

Love or loathe this sort of visual aid, you can't deny it gets the story across. The essential thing is that

history is not sacrificed to gimmick, and in last night's first Crusades (BBC 2), it wasn't. Terry Jones is an excellent story-teller, and the subject became surprisingly television-friendly in his hands. In the average career, actors are expected to do many things, but impersonating a mosaic is not usually among them. "The good news is, you've got the part of Alexius of Constantinople: the bad news, you're playing him as a stock still, daubed with cube-effect paint, and with big eyeballs painted on your lids."

The late Lord Reith might not recognise the tasteful use of the blue-matt technique (superimposing Jones on medieval pictures, so that he could turn round and explain what's going on), but otherwise he would surely approve of all this clever informing and entertaining. The story last night, briefly, was that Constantinople

applied to the Pope for help against the infidel, hoping to get a few soldiers by return of post. Instead, the Pope used it as an excuse to raise an army: meanwhile his offer to pilgrims of confirmed seats in heaven raised an enormous rabble as well. History had never seen anything like it; and wonderfully, there are still historians gobsmacked with amazement. The enthusiastic Jonathan Riley-Smith could hardly contain himself. "This series of actions was breathtaking," he gasped, as though 1095 was yesterday, and really he might have to lie down.

You are often asked by television to share other people's outrage, and sometimes it's not so easy. It depends how the outrage is expressed. Last night's Network First: UFO (ITV) railed against official cover-ups, unanswerable sightings quashed by government; *UN Blues* listed



unproven shocking scandals associated with the United Nations: mainly fraud, corruption, inertia, high living and general uselessness. Both films were persuasive, yet for different reasons appeared to protest too much. I mean, nobody likes a cover-up, but it would be a bit irresponsible of governments if on every UFO sighting that couldn't be explained as a dustbin lid, the official, panic-

inducing reaction was "Yike, what the hell was that?" Lawrence Moore's UFO film was full of "sightings" — bits of amateur video on which bright lights hovered and darted, while on the soundtrack the cameramen yelled "There! Over there!" and forgot to use a tripod. In Florida, on a bay called Gulf Breeze, there appear to be regular night-time light shows ("Go, baby, go!"), although the presence of an air force base near by may have some significance. The biggest British cover-up in Moore's heartfelt film concerned a well-attested sighting at Woodbridge in Suffolk — near another top-security American air force base. One can't help suspecting a connection.

Also, the point needed to be made that, in America, belief in aliens has in many minds supplanted conventional religion, with paranoia thrown in. If the American people were asked to

crusade against aliens ("Your President says — GO! Captain James Kirk says — GO!" one suspects that a depressingly large number would not ask questions first.

Meanwhile the sleaze at the UN has been pinnacled by cynicism that even the queue of detractors seemed to have been worn down by it. I was unfair earlier: of course UN Blues (Channel 4) did not overstate its case (the case was self-evidently too huge), but the accusations were relentless, the critics were weary, and the occasional lapse into sarcasm was best. Discussing the UN's decision to base itself in mega-rich Geneva, the narrator said pettily: "After all, there are only 189 member states to choose from." The worst revelation was that when UN officials are found guilty of malpractice (making a personal profit out of a famine, for example), they

are packed off to another post without disgrace, on the old-fashioned principle, "out of sight, out of mind."

Finally, it was nice to see the ultimate smoke-alarm joke in last night's *Jim Tavaré Pictures Presents* (BBC 2), a peculiar new ten-minute series consisting entirely of clownish sight gags (like *Mr Bean*, only without audience laughter). Tavaré is the endearing comedian with the double bass, who played the Royal Variety last year. In last night's story, he moved into a new flat (wearing his perpetual evening dress), and positioned the smoke-alarm above the fireplace. He lit the fire. "Weep-weep" went the alarm, so he grabbed it and tossed it in the flames. What a guy. The story of his infatuation with the bass was traced back to childhood dalliance with a violin, and adolescent devotion to a cello. You can't say it's not different.

## REVIEW

Lynne Truss

## CHOICE

The Private Life of Plants Travelling

BBC1, 9.30pm

Having done the animal kingdom proud on television, Sir David Attenborough turns his attention to trees and flowers. His seven-part series, handsomely filmed in all parts of the globe, covers the subject by theme. Tonight's is how plants travel, either under their own efforts or by the spreading of their seed. A lucidly organised film shows how seeds are scattered by wind, or water, the shoes of humans and the digestive systems of elephants and rhinos. Apart from Sir David's renowned, somewhat breathless enthusiasm, the series owes much to the ability to speak up film. Thanks to technology, months of growth can be condensed into a few seconds, enabling daffodils to burst into flower, blackberries to turn from green to black and brambles to advance like triffids.



Joe Samson and Julie together with their children

Taggart: Prayer for the Dead

BBC2, 9.00pm

Experience of the German concentration camps has been much evoked in television documentaries, with the danger that the horror may be lessened through over-exposure. Carine Clay's film varies the approach by calling up testimonies not from the victims but their children. Too young to have known the war at first-hand, Joe Samson and Julie piece together the dreadful stories of Nazi persecution and, often just narrowly, tell of how wartime experiences blighted their parents' lives long afterwards. But for all three families there has been a happy ending of a sort. Archive film and family photographs help to fill out a narrative which is presented without commentary or comment.

Taggart: Prayer for the Dead

BBC1, 9.00pm

A man falls to his death during a drugs rave and the body of a young woman is found in the river. The last Taggart story to feature the late Mark McManus sets off to a typically grim start. As usual, the locations match the downbeat mood. The sun must sometimes shine in Glasgow but hardly ever when the Taggart crew is at work. Sadly, for his last appearance, McManus has left more than a hit part. But it is a telling clue. He is actually promoted to acting superintendent, though in acrimonious circumstances after his boss has a heart attack. Barry Appleton's script, meanwhile, offers another of those satisfyingly complex investigations for which the series has become noted. But do not expect any fun.

The Really Wild Show

BBC1, 4.30pm

The good news for Michaela Strachan is that the budget stretches to a trip to Arizona. The bad news is that she finds herself reporting on rattlesnakes. She is a relieved onlooker when the Tucson fire department rescues the venomous reptile from a suburban garden. Later, however, she bravely agrees to handle the slithering beast. Surprisingly the snake comes only second in the list of top ten nasties, yielding top spot to the black widow spider. After the snake, the other which burrows inside Michaela's sweater is almost a welcome guest. The junior wildlife series is as relentlessly joy as ever, while offering a serious tidbit or two along the way.

Peter Waymark

## CARLTON

6.00 GMTV (3584091)

9.25 Chances. Word game presented by Ted

Roberts (4070966). 9.55 London Today (Teletext)

and weather (7363250)

10.00 The Time... The Place (s) (9355072)

10.35 This Morning. Weekday magazine with Richard

Madeley and Judy Finnigan (3228385). 12.20

London Today (Teletext) and weather (7367140)

12.30 News (Teletext) and weather (7733886)

12.55 Coronation Street (s). (Teletext) (7761817). 1.25

Home and Away. (Teletext) (34126782)

1.55 Capital Woman. Includes a look behind the scenes

of a model agency (s) (5634098). 2.25 A Country

Practice. Medical drama set in the Australian

outback (s) (7176256). 2.50 Blue Heelers.

Australian country town police dramas (6186817)

3.20 ITN News headlines. (Teletext) (5615188). 3.25

London Today (Teletext) and weather (5614559)

3.30 Alphabet Castle (s) (5667188). 3.40 Wizards (s)

(9155427). 3.50 Scooby Doo (4756527). 4.15

Reboot (s) (4516968). 4.40 The Tomorrow

People (Teletext) (3843459)

5.10 After 5. (Teletext) (8823584)

5.40 Early Evening News (Teletext) and weather

(44550)

5.55 Your Show. Viewer access slot (399188)

6.00 Home and Away (s). (Teletext) (817)

6.30 London Tonight with Alastair Stewart and Fiona

Foster. (Teletext) (169)

7.00 Talking Telephone Numbers. Game show

presented by Philip Schofield and Emma Forbes.

The guests include Richard Dignane, George

Marshall and the Chinese State Circus (s) (7102)

7.30 Coronation Street. (Teletext) (463)

8.00 Des O'Connor Tonight. With Bob Monkhouse,

Elaine Page, Jimmy Somerville and The Real

McCoys (s) (2617)

9.00 [CHOICE] Taggart: Prayer for the Dead.

(Teletext) (s) (2053)

10.00 News at Ten (Teletext) and weather (505817)

10.30 The Prime Minister (Teletext) and weather (505817)

10.40 Carlton Sport. Bob Wilson and Ian St John

introduce highlights from tonight's four Coca-Cola

Cup quarter-finals. The commentators are Brian

Moore and Alan Parry (4133184)

12.10am Alien Nation. The second and final part of

the drama starring Gary Graham (s) (5343812)

1.05 Hollywood Report. Showbusiness gossip (s)

(9029675)

1.35 The Beat. Music and movie magazine (s) (1762270)

2.35 The Album Show (s) (925473)

3.30 House On The Harbour. A portrait of the Sydney

Opera House (9409270)

4.05 Donahue. The guests are people who discovered

that their partners were planning to kill them

(4850270)

4.55 The Time... The Place. Topical discussion (s)

(2575454)

5.30 ITN Morning News (14812). Ends at 6.00

## CHANNEL 4

6.35 Once Upon a Time... Life. An animated series

exploring the human body (8290140)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (52053)

9.00 You Bet Your Life (s) (70324)

9.30 Stand Still, Be Fit. Series on fitness using minimal

movement (s) (8081053)

9.45 FILM: Brigham Young (1940, b/w) starring Dean

Jagger. The story of the trek westwards from Illinois

to Utah by the Mormons led by Brigham Young

Directed by Henry Hathaway (167904)

11.45 In A Rehearsal Room. A short film about a

romantic classical ballet (9008701)

12.00 House To House. Maya Evans presents the political

magazine (90158)

12.30 Sesame Street. Early learning entertainment

(35121). 1.30 Talk Five featuring The Mr Men,

Furthest Tales of the Riverbank, Jobby Bear and

Ivor the Engine (s) (52445). 2.00 The Plastic

Blaster. A Terrytoon cartoon (4182121)

2.10 FILM: The Game of Love (1989) starring Kim Cattrall,

Ed Manno and Max Gail. A made-for-television

drama following the fortunes of a disparate group of

people who frequent a singles bar. Directed by

Bobbi Roth (Teletext) (377633)

3.55 Journeymen. The second of a 16-part series in

which Olive Gurnell explores the canal scene

along the Thames in Oxfordshire and the Dorset

coast. (Teletext) (335585)

4.30 Countdown. (Teletext) (s) (966)

5.00 Ricki Lake. The guests are people who have

transformed themselves in the last ten years

(Teletext) (s) (627865)

5.50 Terrytoons (372411)

6.00 The Crystal Maze (s). (Teletext) (s) (17343)

7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) and weather (297492)

7.50 The Slot. A viewer comments on a topical subject

(264508)

8.00 Brookside. (Teletext) (s) (4324)

8.30 Travelogue. Robert Elms reports from Colombia's

Caribbean coastline and then the island of

Providence. (Teletext) (s) (3458)

9.00 Dispatches. A documentary about the dark side of

Britain's burgeoning arms trade. (Teletext) (4445)

9.30 [CHOICE] Taggart: Prayer for the Dead.

(Teletext) (s) (2053)

10.00 News at Ten (Teletext) and weather (505817)

10.30 The Prime Minister (Teletext) and weather (505817)

10.40 Carlton Sport. Bob Wilson and Ian St John

introduce highlights from tonight's four Coca-Cola

Cup quarter-finals. The commentators are Brian

Moore and Alan Parry (4133184)

12.10am Alien Nation. The second and final part of

the drama starring Gary Graham (s) (5343812)

1.05 Hollywood Report. Showbusiness gossip (s)

(9029675)

1.35 The Beat. Music and movie magazine (s) (1762270)

2.35 The Album Show (s) (925473)

3.30 House On The Harbour. A portrait of the Sydney

Opera House (9409270)

4.05 Donahue. The guests are people who discovered

that their partners were planning to kill them

(4850270)

4.55 The Time... The Place. Topical discussion (s)

(2575454)

5.30 ITN Morning News (14812). Ends at 6.00

5.30 [CHOICE] Taggart: Prayer for the Dead.

(Teletext) (s) (2053)

10.00 News at Ten (Teletext) and weather (505817)

10.30 The Prime Minister (Teletext) and weather (505817)

10.40 Carlton Sport. Bob Wilson and Ian St John

introduce highlights from tonight's four Coca-Cola

## BBC1

6.00 Business Breakfast (83072)

7.00 BBC Breakfast News. Includes extended bulletins

on the hour and headlines every 15 minutes

(18892492)

9.05 Kilroy. Robert Kilroy-Silk chairs a studio discussion

on a topical subject (s) (8967188)

10.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather

(1845508). 10.05 Good Morning With Anne and

Nick. Weekday magazine (s) (6511732)

12.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather

(7308258). 12.05 Patrick Mill. (371211). 12.55

Regional News and weather (7779955)

1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (82430)

1.30 Neighbours. (Ceefax) (s) (9142614). 1.50

Timekeepers. Quiz game (s) (9142043)

2.15 Alias Smith and Jones. Light-hearted western

adventures starring Paul Douglas and Ben Murphy as

outlaws trying to go straight. In this they are hired to

stop a train robbery, planned by their former gang

(s) (5539031). 3.05 Movie Magic. Series on the

sciences of film-making (8199140)

3.25 Cartoon (8119904). 3.45 Sick As A Parrot.

Children's crossword puzzle game (s) (5651527)

4.00 Jackanory. Christopher Guard with part three

of Robert Louis Stevenson's Treasure Island (s)

(5672955). 4.10 Potemkin and Co (s) (4531275)

4.30 [CHOICE] The Really Wild Show. (Ceefax) (s)

(256)

5.00 Newswatch (5058189). 5.05 Eldorado. Fantasy drama

about four young Manxmen who discover a

twilight world. (Ceefax) (s) (5778625)

5.35 Neighbours (s). (Ceefax) (s) (11255). Northern

Ireland: Inside Ulster

6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (121)

6.30 Regional News Magazine (701)

7.00 This Is Your Life. Michael Aspel with another

potent biography. (Ceefax) (s) (2366)

7.30 On the Up. Comedy series about the trials and

tribulations of a self-made millionaire. Starring

Dennis Waterman (s). (Ceefax) (s) (985). Wales:

Winter in Wales

8.00 How Do They Do That? Stories of human

achievement, introduced by Desmond Lynam and

Jenny Hull. (Ceefax) (s) (433508)

8.45 Points of View. (Ceefax) (s) (211701



## SPORT

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 11 1995

## RUGBY UNION 43

CATT CALLED UP  
AS FULL BACK  
BY ENGLAND

Striker joins champions from Newcastle in record £7 million deal

## Cole burns hole in United's pocket

BY PETER BALL

IN THE gloomy aftermath of Manchester United's defeat in Gothenburg in the European Champions' League, Martin Edwards, the chairman, promised that the club was prepared to break the British transfer record in order to compete in Europe. Yesterday Alex Ferguson called in the promise, paying a British record £6 million for the prolific Newcastle United goalscorer, Andy Cole.

With Keith Gillespie, United's exciting young Northern Ireland international, joining Newcastle as part of the transfer, its total value is around £7 million, easily exceeding the £5 million Blackburn paid Norwich City for Chris Sutton in the summer. Cole, 23, last night signed a 5-year contract which will keep him at United until the year 2000.

It means Ferguson has now spent over £26 million in eight years. United could recoup £2.5 million by selling Mark Hughes, their Wales international, whose place is put at risk by the arrival of Cole.

To view the deal in market forces is dangerous... Cole is flesh and blood, vulnerable. He needs, as never before, a personal relationship with his new manager.

— Rob Hughes, page 44



Cole in pensive mood as he faces the press at Old Trafford yesterday after joining Manchester United from Newcastle for a record fee. Photograph: Paul Sanders

although Ferguson insisted yesterday that he has no immediate plans to sell. The Everton manager, Joe Royle, has already had one bid for Hughes turned down, and he may be more successful this time, although Aston Villa and Leeds United could provide competition.

Those are the facts. They hardly reveal the dimensions of the story which astonished the football world yesterday. For once "sensational" is not a tabloid cliché, but a sober, if anything understated, description of the transfer.

Ferguson's pursuit of an English striker has been well documented and that he should have coveted Cole is unsurprising. That Kevin Keegan, the Newcastle manager, should sell a player who not only scored 41 goals last season but is revered almost as a god on Tyneside is barely credible.

Even the player was astonished when Keegan told him on Monday that he had accepted an offer from Manchester United. "I was

very shocked and I expect you boys were too," Cole told a press conference at Old Trafford yesterday afternoon. "I never thought Newcastle would sell me, at least not to another English club."

But with Newcastle in something of a slump, and Cole not having scored for ten matches, the most barren run of his career, Keegan decided to shake things up. His admiration for Gillespie persuaded him and it is a typically brave decision; some would say it is foolhardy given feelings on Tyneside. The pair will sit out the match between Newcastle and Manchester United at St James' Park on Sunday.

If Cole was surprised to be leaving, Ferguson was delighted to get his man, even though, as he admits, any transfer is a gamble. Ladbroke's obviously think so, too, their odds against United doing the double for a second time lengthening with news of the transfer.

With Hughes reaching his 30s, United's search for a

forward to strengthen their squad of English players after the untimely European exit, for a second successive season, was no secret and Teddy Sheringham and Les Ferdinand had been linked with the club, along with Stan Collymore. Cole had been ignored publicly.

"When strikers were being considered, Andy Cole was mentioned least because we

never thought we could get him," Edwards said yesterday. In recent weeks Collymore had seemed destined to solve the problem, but Forest delayed.

On Friday a frustrated Ferguson got tired of waiting for Forest to say yes and decided to test the water in Newcastle. Cole is a different type of forward to Collymore, but Ferguson clearly believes that

he will form the same fruitful partnership with Cantona that he enjoyed at Newcastle with Beardsley.

"I think the way we play will suit Andy," Ferguson said. "We found that teams just come and sit on the edge of their box and defend against us, and they might be a bit wary about doing that now we've got him."

Ferguson had made a tenta-

tive inquiry early in the season, and had it rejected out of hand. To his surprise this time Keegan did not dismiss the approach; instead he phoned Ferguson back and asked for Gillespie.

In his turn Ferguson took time to think. Gillespie had been one of the outstanding graduates from the youth team but, given the restrictions on "foreign" players in the European Cup, he, like Hughes, suffers from not being English. "If Keith had been English, I wouldn't have let him go, but sometimes you have to give something to get something," Ferguson said.

Cole had no reservations. "I've left a good team and come to an even better one. There are lots of world-class players here and I think I'll get loads of goals. It's the only club I'd have left Newcastle for. But when Kevin said he had accepted United's offer that made up my mind."

Diary, page 18  
Buying English, page 44

## Keegan sticks to his guns

KEVIN KEEGAN, the Newcastle United manager, is prepared to stand or fall by his decision to sell Andy Cole to Manchester United (Louis Taylor writes). "I know my management of this club will be judged from here on in," he said. "I understand the implications. I know what the bottom line will be if things don't work out."

"I've done a lot of soul-searching over the last four days but I am thinking about the future good of this club. I believe that £6 million and Keith Gillespie will be good for Newcastle."

"I am hopeful of signing someone else soon. With this money I can buy almost anyone in the world I want. But, temporarily at least, I think Keith Gillespie will be good enough to replace Cole, good enough to do some of the things Andy did for us. Obviously, there will be some fans who are disappointed. They will say it's a bad move. Some will think it's a good deal, though. Everyone's entitled to their opinion but I stand by my decision. It is a good deal, too good to turn down and that's what I told my board," Keegan said.

## Surprise January sale divides Tyneside shoppers

Is selling Andy Cole the smartest thing Kevin Keegan has done? Or does the transfer represent betrayal? Opinion on Tyneside is divided. Whatever the rights and wrongs of the sale, its impact was sufficient to stop Newcastle's January sales shoppers in their tracks yesterday. Across the city centre, people of all ages stood glued to newspapers.

Shopping bags were dropped at feet as the Evening Chronicle's front page headline "Cole sold for £7m" was

absorbed. A flip to the back page reinforced the shock: "Cole for Man U". Newspaper sellers in Eldon Square could hardly recall a day like it — similar interest had not been registered since the day Keegan became United's manager. Or maybe the morning Margaret Thatcher's resignation was announced.

Despite the heavy rain, hundreds of bedraggled supporters congregated outside St James' Park. Among these hardcore members of the Toon Army, the mood was of

Louise Taylor finds differing reactions to the news that a hero is leaving St James' Park

disbelief. "Say it ain't so, please say it ain't so," they said as arriving journalists were interrogated.

Inside, John Beresford, the Newcastle left back, was meeting sponsors for a routine promotional exercise. Shock personified, his initial reaction was that the transfer must be "a wind-up".

Back out in that persistent

rain, supporters huddled beneath the Millburn stand. Paul Gascoigne, Peter Beardsley and Chris Waddle were all sold to finance its construction during the 1980s and a feeling of déjà vu proved inescapable. "Here we go again," said one. "Where will it end? Newcastle always sell their best players."

The pain is heightened when the revered No 9 shirt is

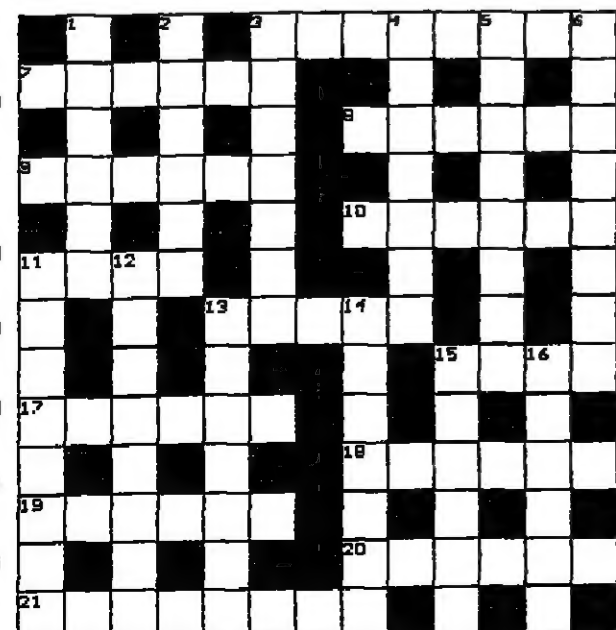
sold. Supporters brought up on stories of Millburn and MacDonald prize their centre forwards. Around 30 of the most fanatical circling outside United's main reception thus broke into loud, repetitive chants demanding that Keegan come out and explain himself.

Eventually, flanked by his assistant, Terry McDermott, Keegan emerged. "This is why I am the manager, not you," Keegan said. "I know what I am doing."

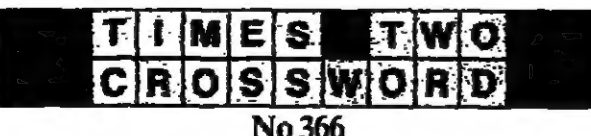
Other supporters' faith in

their manager remains touchingly undiminished. Contemptuous of those jamming the club's switchboard with protests and inundating local radio station phone-ins with outrage, some believe the transfer represents a smart piece of business.

Long-term doubts about the ship-splint condition that has restricted Cole's recent goalscoring form, and other concerns relating to his attitude, suggest that £6 million and Keith Gillespie may be a fair trade-off.



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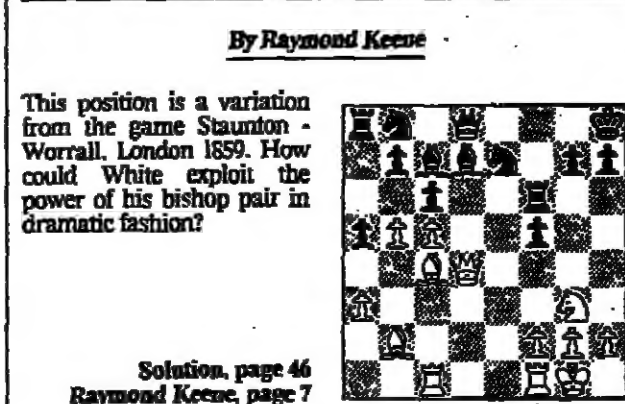
**TIMES TWO CROSSWORD**  
No 366

ACROSS  
3 In which Olympic Games are held (4,4)  
7 Split, cling (6)  
8 Sun's turning point (6)  
9 Population count (6)  
10 Rubble (6)  
11 Appear (4)  
13 Wild animal (5)  
15 Be aware of (4)  
17 Community of settlers (6)  
18 Sapience (6)  
19 Distress call (6); holiday (3,3)  
20 Opposed to (6)  
21 Bare bones (8)

DOWN  
1 Declare without proof (6)  
2 Payment to kidnapper (6)  
3 Free time (7)  
4 Without blemish (7)  
5 Sky (poet) (8)  
6 Human-powered taxi (8)  
11 Gives in (to temptation) (8)  
12 One hired (by firm) (8)  
13 Wound covering (7)  
14 Impresario (7)  
15 Edible for orthodox Jew (6)  
16 Reed-instrument player (6)

SOLUTION TO NO 365  
ACROSS: 1 Rebut, 4 Stumble, 8 Billboard, 9 Jinx, 10 Tea, 11 Opposite, 12 Token, 13 Hauri, 16 Heards, 18 Lea, 20 Rot, 21 Overboard, 22 Nursery, 23 Ether  
DOWN: 1 Robot, 2 Bulwark, 3 To be or not to be, 4 Scampi, 5 Under the table, 6 Bijou, 7 Entreat, 12 Teheran, 14 Ur-leash, 15 Heresy, 17 Altar, 19 Adder

This position is a variation from the game Staunton - Worrall, London 1859. How could White exploit the power of his bishop pair in dramatic fashion?

Solution, page 46  
Raymond Keene, page 7

By Philip Howard

**RITSU**  
a. A walker biscuit  
b. An Egyptian river  
c. A Buddhist sect

**SANTERO**  
a. A clothes press  
b. A sun hat  
c. A religious image maker

**OG**  
a. An Australian shilling  
b. A mythical monster  
c. A dark brown drink

**PLUG**  
a. A polygamist  
b. A beggar  
c. A hair clip

Answers on page 46

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